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WORLD CUP CLASSICS

Two to one . . . Italy's Rosato and Bertini stop Tostao in the 1970 World Cup Final in Mexico, but Brazil still won 4-1.

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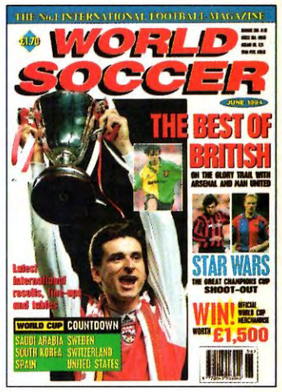

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FORMER SCOTLAND STRIKER DENIS LAW TELLS HOW ONE DEFEAT HELPED TO TURN HIS OLD CLUB INTO THE DOMINANT FORCE IN ENGLISH FOOTBALL, NOW ABOUT TO RETURN THROUGH THE GATEWAY TO EUROPE AND THE HUGE FINANCIAL REWARDS THAT LIE BEYOND

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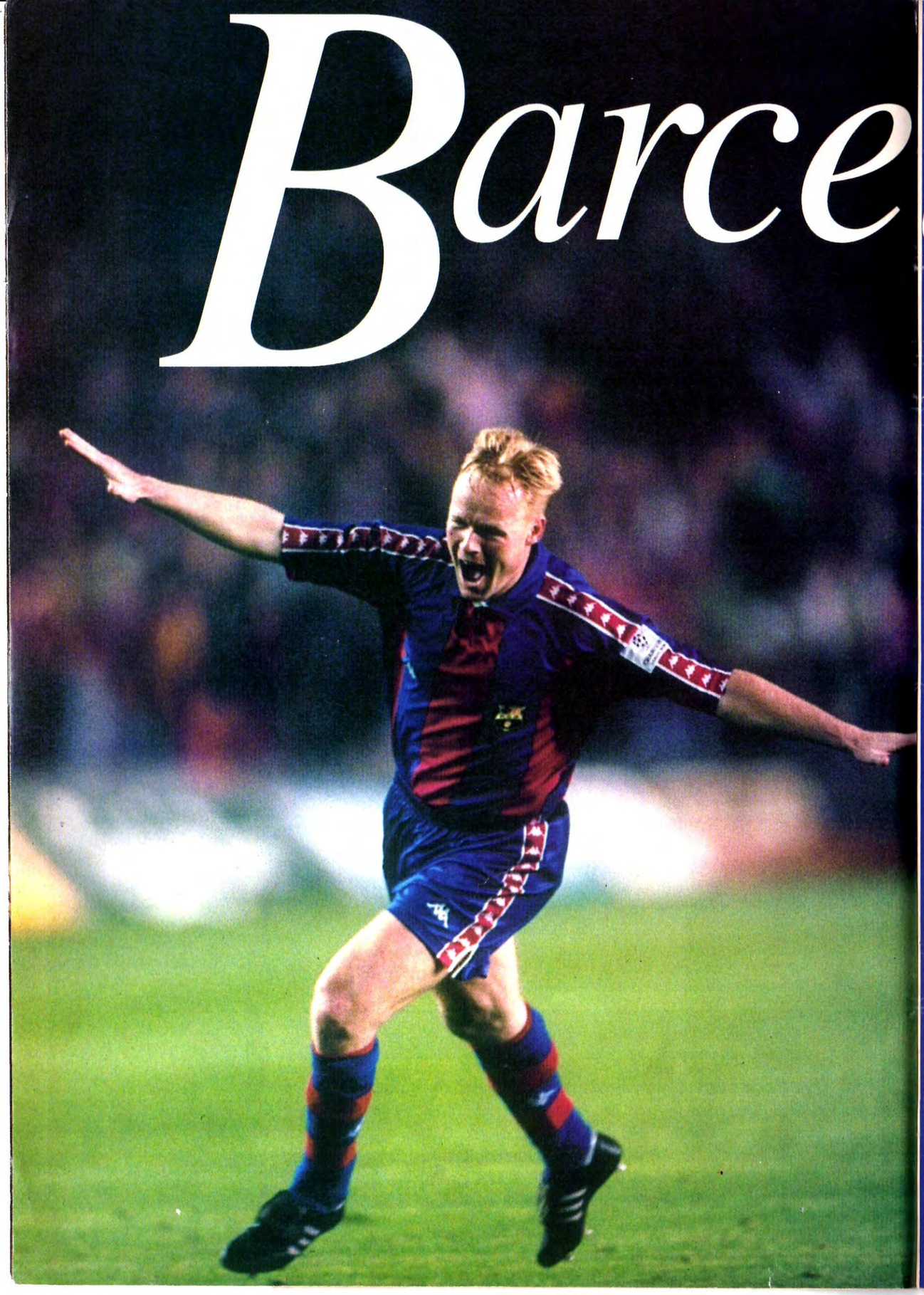


YOU NEED to go back a couple of decades to find the occasion when the Champions Cup Final presented such a glamorous prospect between the two greatest powers in Latin European football.

On only four occasions have the champions of Italy and Spain met in the most prestigious of international club finals. In the late 1950s Real Madrid saw off both Fiorentina and Milan before Internazionale struck back for Italy — against Madrid — in 1964. It was 18 years before Spain crossed swords with Italy again, Barcelona defeating Sampdoria with Ronald Koeman's extra-time free-kick at Wembley two years ago.

Now, once again, Johan Cruyff's Barcelona face Italian opposition. But much sterner opposition. They don't come any more awesome than Milan, pride and joy of Silvio Berlusconi, media magnate with the Midas touch. Berlusconi is also, now, Prime Minister-elect. But even his mighty commercial and political empire may not quite stretch to further conquest in the Olympic Stadium in Athens.

While the outcome of the final will arouse the most speculation, one factor is not in any doubt: these really are the top two club sides in Europe. And not merely this spring.

Milan have been No 1 in Italy for the past seven years. In that time they have won the World Club Cup twice, the Champions Cup twice and have just completed an Italian League hat-trick. Barcelona have been similarly dominant at home, if not abroad, completing a League title treble of their own to add to successes in both the Champions Cup (1992) and the Cup-winners Cup (1989).

Indeed, they may yet have secured a fourth consecutive domestic championship by the time they stride out against Milan if fragile Spanish leaders La Coruna continue nervily dropping points in all directions.

Quite correctly then, Milan and Barcelona were top seeds when the Champions League groups were drawn last autumn. Each duly topped their respective mini-league and won their succeeding semi-finals by 3-0 — Barcelona swamping FC Porto while Milan accomplished a dramatic dismissal of Monaco.

Yet Barcelona, for all their attacking talent, had opened their group campaign with a mere 0-0 draw away to Galatasaray. Not until second time out did they seize group leadership from Monaco — thanks to a 2-0 home win over the French stand-ins before an 89,000 crowd in Nou Camp.

Aitor Beguiristain scored both goals, in the 16th and 27th minutes. Barcelona might have won 3-0 but Ronald Koeman had a last-minute penalty stopped by Monaco's veteran goalkeeper, Jean-Luc Ettori.

A further victory beckoned when Barcelona dominated much of their visit to Moscow to face Spartak. But, much to Cruyff's irritation, his team of all the talents allowed Spartak to hit back from 2-0 down to gain a 2-2 draw.

Two weeks later, however, back in warmer climes, Barcelona made no mistake. Koeman (two), Stoichkov, Amor and Romario contributed the goals to a 5-1 victory over Spartak which sent the Spanish champions into the semi-finals with two games to spare.

Milan, with further remarkable similarity, began with a typically cautious goalless draw away to Anderlecht in Brussels. They followed up, a week later, by defeating FC Porto 3-0 in the Stadio Meazza. The Porto game was moved forward a week to help Milan — in vain, as it turned out — in their preparations for the World Club Cup Final against Sao Paulo in Tokyo.

A live issue was the increasing impatience of Dejan Savicevic for a first-team opportunity. The former Yugoslav international had spent 18 months sitting on the sidelines because of domestic and international foreigner restrictions.

PROBABLE TEAMS

May 18 — Olympic Stadium (Athens)

BARCELONA	v	MILAN
Zubizarreta	1	Rossi
Ferrer	2	Maldini
Koeman	3	Tassotti
Nadal	4	Galli
Amor	5	Panucci
Bakero	6	Donadoni
Guardiola	7	Desailly
Beguiristain	8	Albertini
Sergi	9	Boban
Stoichkov	10	Savicevic
Romario	11	Massaro
Johan Cruyff	*Coach*	Fabio Capello

Milan may pay heavy price for Baresi's absence

Paying the price . . . suspended Milan skipper Baresi.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS CUP FINALS

1956 .....Real Madrid 4, Stade de Reims 2
1957 .....Real Madrid 2, Fiorentina 0
1958 .....Real Madrid 3, Milan 2 (aet)
1959 .....Real Madrid 2, Stade de Reims 0
1960 .....Real Madrid 7, Eintracht Frankfurt 3
1961 .....Benfica 3, Barcelona 2
1962 .....Benfica 5, Real Madrid 3
1963 .....Milan 2, Benfica 1
1964 .....Internazionale 3, Real Madrid 1
1965 .....Internazionale 1, Benfica 0
1966 .....Real Madrid 2, Partizan Belgrade 1
1967 .....Celtic 2, Internazionale 1
1968 .....Manchester United 4, Benfica 1, (aet)
1969 .....Milan 4, Ajax Amsterdam 1
1970 .....Feyenoord 2, Cletic 1 (aet)
1971 .....Ajax Amsterdam 2, Panathinaikos 0
1972 .....Ajax Amsterdam 2, Internazionale 0
1973 .....Ajax Amsterdam 1, Juventus 0
1974 .....Bayern Munich 1, Atletico Madrid 1
1974 *Replay:* ....Bayern Munich 4, Atletico Madrid 0
1975 .....Bayern Munich 2, Leeds United 0
1976 .....Bayern Munich 1, St Etienne 0
1977 .....Liverpool 3, Borussia Mg 1
1978 .....Liverpool 1, FC Bruges 0
1979 .....Nottingham Forest 1, FC Malmo 0
1980 .....Nottingham Forest 1, SV Hamburg 0
1981 .....Liverpool 1, Real Madrid 0
1982 .....Aston Villa 1, Bayern Munich 0
1983 .....SV Hamburg 1, Juventus 0
1984 .....Liverpool 1, AS Roma 1
Liverpool won 4-2 on pens
1985 .....Juventus 1, Liverpool 0
1986 .....Steaua Bucharest 0, Barcelona 0
Steaua Bucharest won 2-0 on pens
1987 .....FC Porto 2, Bayern Munich 1
1988 .....PSV Eindhoven 0, Benfica 0
PSV Eindhoven won 6-5 on pens
1989 .....Milan 4, Steaua Bucharest 0
1990 .....Milan 1, Benfica 0
1991 .....Red Star Belgrade 0, Marseille 0
Red Star Belgrade won 5-3 on pens
1992 .....Barcelona 1, Sampdoria 0 (aet)
1993 .....Marseille 1, Milan 0
Marseille were lated stripped of their title

In a sulk. Savicevic refused to travel with Milan's squad to the match against Anderlecht.

Coach Fabio Capello would doubtless have punished him by exclusion from any role whatever — even ball boy — for the home tie against Porto. But Savicevic just happens to be one of Berlusconi's blue-eyed boys. Capello, playing the diplomat, called up Savicevic up for a rare appearance against the Portuguese and was duly rewarded with an "I-told-you-so" display in which Savicevic helped create all Milan's three goals.

Savicevic and Milan carried on after the winter break exactly where they had left off against Porto. Against Werder Bremen, Savicevic switched from creator to goalscorer and grabbed Milan's decisive second goal in their 2-1 victory.

After that it was plain, if cautious, sailing. Milan drew 1-1 away to Bremen then 0-0 at home to Anderlecht to secure group leadership — and a semi-final place — with a game to spare (which they also drew, 0-0 away to fellow semi-finalists Porto).

The key to the outcome of the final may yet be found by a glance at the semi-finals and, in particular, at events in the Stadio Meazza. Milan beat Monaco 3-0 with some panache. But, in so doing, they lost their rock-like central defensive partnership of veteran skipper Franco Baresi and Alessandro Costacurta. Baresi collected a third yellow card of the campaign and Costacurta was sent off. Both suffer automatic suspension from the final. Against any other team than Barcelona, that might not be so painful. But Barcelona are the most ruthless attacking outfit in the world.

They have been tutored that way by coach Cruyff, one of the greatest of attackers in this modern era. Bulgaria's Hristo Stoichkov and Brazil's Romario are not the men to show any mercy to weakened defences.

How Milan will cope is open to question. Capello may switch Paolo Maldini from leftback to sweeper with veteran Filippo Galli in place of Costacurta — not for the first time — as stopper.

But Barcelona are the wrong team to face with a reshuffled pack.

Milan might hope to catch extended Barcelona on the break. But who can seize the time? Marco Van Basten is still on the injured list and Jean-Pierre Papin has already moved house mentally to Munich, where he will shortly join Bayern. Florin Raducioiu and Brian Laudrup have played only intermittently while Daniele Massaro — for all his crucial league goals — looked painfully ill at ease on the grand European stage last year against Marseille. It was Massaro, remember, who wasted all Milan's best chances long before Basile Boli struck the doomed French club's winner.

The 1994 Champions Cup Final could be a classic. But at this level, under such pressure, that may be too much like wishful thinking.

Considering Milan's selection problems, their poor form in the last league rounds in Italy compared with Barcelona's steady improvement, there is one logical outcome: for Barcelona to repeat their 1992 success over Italian opponents.

On this occasion, they may not need extra time, either.

KEIR RADNEDGE

Sliding . . . Milan's Panucci on Monaco's Djorkaeff.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Semi-finals *(April 27)*

BARCELONA 3 (Stoichkov 10, 35, Koeman 72)
FC PORTO 0

HT: 2-0. **Att:** 98,000. **Ref:** Zhuk (Bye).

Barcelona: Zubizarreta — Ferrer, Koeman, Nadal, Sergi (Goikoetxea 74), Guardiola, Bakero, Amor, Stoichkov, Romario, Beguiristain (Ivan 41).

FC Porto: Vitor Baia — Joao Pinto*, Jorge Costa, Aloisio, Fernando Couto, Secretario, Andre (Paulinho Santos 75), Folha (Semedo 65), Rui Filipe, Drulovic, Kostadinov.

** Joao Pinto sent off, 61min.*

BARCELONA had to wait only 10 minutes before the path to the final opened up before them. That was how long it took for Bulgarian World Cup striker Hristo Stoichkov to score from close range after an attack organised by Romario and Sergi.

The same three players were involved in the second goal after 35 minutes. Again Romario found Sergi in space on the left and once more the lethal Stoichkov pounced in front of goal.

FC Porto never seriously threatened Barcelona goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta and lost all hope of recovery when captain Joao Pinto was sent off in the 61st minute for a second yellow-card offence.

Dutchman Ronald Koeman scored Barcelona's third goal in the 72nd minute — unusually for him, the goal was neither a penalty nor a free-kick. Koeman accelerated through a gap which depleted FC Porto had left in midfield and drove a typically powerful shot beyond the reach of Vitor Baia.

MILAN 3 (Desailly 14, Albertini 48, Massaro 66)
MONACO 0

HT: 1-0. **Att:** 78,650. **Ref:** Heynemann (Ger)

Milan: Rossi — Tassotti, Baresi, Costacurta*, Panucci, Albertini, Desailly, Donadoni, Boban, Savicevic (Simone 87), Massaro (Lentini 84). ** Costacurta sent off, 40min.*

Monaco: Ettori — Blondeau (Wreh 54), Grimandi, Dumas, Petit, Puel (Simba 67), Gnako, Viaud, Scifo, Djorkaeff, Klinsmann.

MILAN demonstrated their power by defeating Monaco comfortably despite playing more than half the match with only 10 men.

The Italian champions took the lead after 14 minutes when a left-wing corner from Zvonimir Boban was headed home by French cap Marcel Desailly.

Milan were reduced to 10 men five minutes before half-time when Alessandro Costacurta was sent off for tripping Monaco's German striker, Jurgen Klinsmann. Captain and sweeper Franco Baresi was booked and because it was his third of the campaign he, too, automatically misses the final.

Despite this, Milan dominated the second half. Demetrio Albertini scored with a superb long-range shot after a free kick and Daniele Massaro volleyed a magnificent third goal after a defence-splitting, crossfield pass from Christian Panucci.

UEFA CUP FINAL REPORT

Viennese waltz for Inter

INTERNAZIONALE of Milan were poised to become the fifth Italian winners of the UEFA Cup in six years after winning 1-0 away to Casino Salzburg in the first leg of the Final.

Nicola Berti's 35th-minute goal from a Ruben Sosa free kick provided Inter with a decisive victory and was the first time Salzburg had let their opponents through in six home ties.

Inter, UEFA Cup winners in 1991, held out to win an undistinguished game despite playing with only 10 men for most of the second half after midfielder Alessandro Bianchi was sent off for a second yellow card in the 48th minute after pulling down Franz Aigner.

Until Berti struck, Salzburg, the poor relations of the Final, had looked far from the underdogs against one of Europe's richest clubs. They made most of the running and were unlucky not to open the scoring, clearly missing three suspended players including the Austrian league's leading scorer, Nikola Jurcevic.

Inter's defence was troubled only in the first 10 minutes when forward Martin Amerhauser twice shot high and wide from 10 metres. Then Inter took the lead against the general run of play in their first attack when Berti eluded a posse of defenders to convert a free kick from Ruben Sosa. The Uruguayan came close to a second goal when he collected a pass from Wim Jonk and crashed a 25-yard shot against keeper Otto Konrad's bar on the stroke of half-time.

In the second half Inter retreated into their traditional defensive shell with even Dutch forward Dennis Bergkamp held deep in midfield. Salzburg pressed forward without ever seriously threatening Walter Zenga and it was Inter, in an 80th-minute breakaway, who came nearest to a further goal. However Jonk's angled shot flew inches wide.

Jonk also was cautioned but since it was his first booking of the campaign he was left clear to play in the second leg — unlike Salzburg's Heimo Pfeifenberger and Hermann Stadler.

Italy first laid hands on the third-ranking European club tournament when AS Roma beat Birmingham City over two legs in the old Inter-Cities Fairs Cup Final of 1961. Not for another 16 years did Italy celebrate again, this time after the UEFA Cup had been instituted in the place of the Fairs Cup. Juventus defeated Athletic Bilbao on the away goals rule. In recent years, however, the UEFA Cup has become virtual Italian property: Napoli in 1989, Juventus in 1990, Inter in 1991 then Juventus again last year. Ajax Amsterdam have been the only recent interlopers. Even then, in 1992, they had to beat Italy's Torino in the Final.

By contrast, Austrian clubs have never figured among the trophy lists. The closest to success were FK Austria in 1978 and Rapid Wien in 1985, beaten by Anderlecht and Everton respectively in the European Cup-winners Cup Final.

● ***The second leg took place in Milan after WORLD SOCCER had gone to press.***

UEFA CUP FINAL

1st leg *(Vienna — April 26)*

CASINO AUSTRIA SALZBURG 0
INTERNAZIONALE 1 (Berti 35)

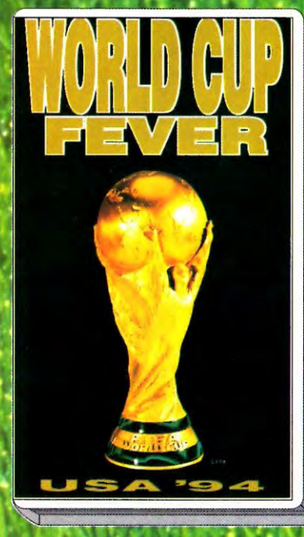
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 47,500. **Ref:** K Milton Nielsen (Den).

Salzburg: Konrad — Lainer, Weber, Winkelhofer (Steiner 61), Furstaller, Aigner, Amaerhauser (Muzek 46), Artner, Marquinho, Pfeifenberger, Stadler.

Inter: Zenga — Paganin, Orlando, Jonk, Bergomi, Battistini, Bianchi*, Manicone, Berti, Bergkamp (Dell'Anno 89), Sosa (Ferri 74).

** Bianchi sent off, 48min.*

THE OFFICIAL 1994 WORLD CUP RANGE



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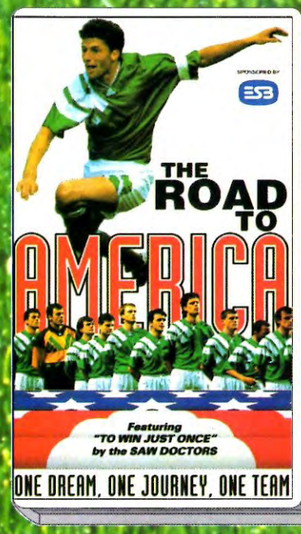

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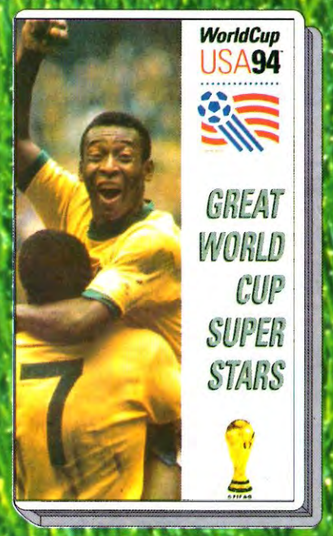

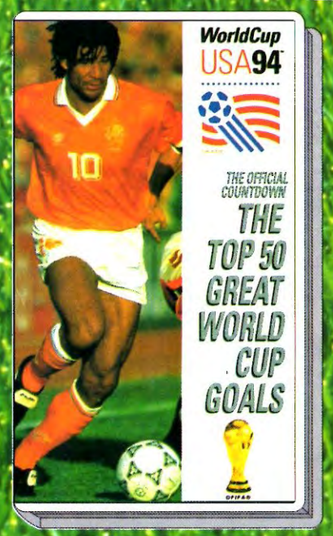

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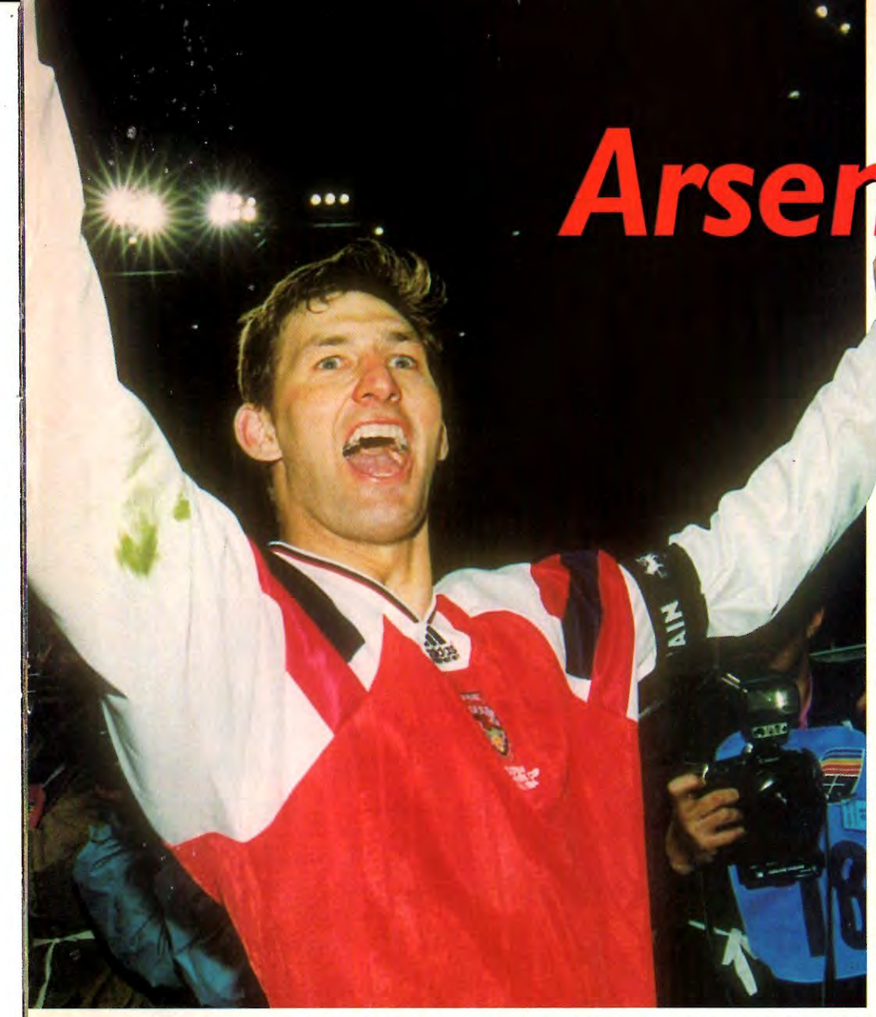


Arsenal glory story could run and run

Gunners plan a return to make history next year

ARSENAL needed 24 years to collect the second European trophy in their history. But their display against Parma in Copenhagen suggests that the Gunners might, in one year's time, write a particular piece of international history and become the first club to retain the European Cup-winners Cup.

Fiorentina and Atletico Madrid reached successive finals but fell at the last hurdle in the early 1960s. Milan and Anderlecht both failed when just 90 minutes away in the late 1970s, and Ajax defeated Lokomotive Leipzig in 1987 then lost to Mechelen in 1988. And, to bring the story of Europe's jinx up to date, holders Parma also fell within reach of the history books.

But the resilience with which Arsenal accomplished their victorious task in the Parken Stadium suggests they might well be back next season. Certainly, the competition next term is unlikely to be as testing as in this season's exceptional event.

In Copenhagen, it was not as if Parma were outsiders. They were clear favourites against an Arsenal side significantly weakened — in theory, though not in final fact — by the suspension of top scorer Ian Wright and injuries to John Jensen, Martin Keown and David Hillier. Even David Seaman needed a painkilling injection to prepare him for the expected assault on his goal by Faustino Asprilla, Tomas Brolin and Gianfranco Zola.

That Seaman was never tested to significant levels was all to the credit of Tony Adams and Steve Bould in the centre of Arsenal's defence. Time and again they snapped forward to interrupt the tip-tap flow of Parma's attack.

In front of them, Arsenal's midfield soaked up all the pressure and chased and harried whenever bypassed, while Alan Smith played a typically honest, tireless lone role up front. Smith's glorious reward, in his veteran years, was to snatch the single goal which brought Arsenal their first European trophy since they defeated Anderlecht in the two-leg final of the old Inter-Cities Fairs Cup back in 1970.

Master manager . . . Arsenal's George Graham.

A decade later, of course, Arsenal fell to Valencia on penalties in the final of the Cup-winners Cup in the Heysel Stadium in Brussels. They must have felt that the competition owed them a favour — even at this distance — and such a favour fell their way in the opening minutes when Brolin's rasping drive skidded low past Seaman's right hand, struck the far post and rebounded frighteningly but safely across the face of goal.

In the 19th minute an acrobatic error of a clearance attempt by sweeper Lorenzo Minotti presented Smith with the oppportunity to chest down the ball and fire an 18-yard left-foot drive in off Bucci's left-hand post.

After that Arsenal out-Italianed the Italians, creating little more in terms of serious danger and soaking up all Parma's increasingly frantic but ill-directed pressure. Not that it was an easy task.

As Arsenal manager George Graham said: "It was very, very difficult because we had to put out an injury-hit side against one of the best teams in Europe.

"But the players showed tremendous character and once we went a goal in front we knew we had a chance because our strength is keeping clean sheets.

"Every player deserves praise. We had a team of heroes tonight; none more so than Alan Smith, who was outstanding and worked tirelessly up front as well as scoring the winning goal.

"The quality of the opposition was so high. It was a great result."

Graham could afford to be magnanimous in victory, saying: "Parma looked much sharper. They have better technicians than we do in England and we looked tired at times because of the number of games we have to play at home. But it's nice for me to be able to make that point having won the game.

"Once more this victory showed the character of the British player. We had two youngsters out there in our midfield who were magnificent for us, Steve Morrow and Ian Selley."

Parma coach Nevio Scala admitted: "Arsenal were the better side. They showed how to control our system of play and to me they are the least typical English team I have seen."

Smith said: "It was a terrific way to end the season. We have had a wonderful campaign in Europe and it was lovely to score the goal that won the trophy.

"It was a real bonus but I was delighted because with our defence you know that one goal is always likely to be enough.

"It's hard to compare this with our League championship decider at Anfield five years ago. It is a different kind of thing but it is very satisfying to beat players from the continent, especially the Italians who have the best league and the best players.

"There is nothing quite like scoring a goal that wins a final, especially in Europe."

Parma may not have heard the last of this final after controversy surrounding an injury to Arsenal full-back Nigel Winterburn deep into the second half.

He collapsed after being struck in the face by the ball and was then hit by one of a hail of missiles thrown from the crowd behind the Arsenal goal where the Parma supporters were massed.

Referee Vaclav Krondl, who picked up several of the coins and other bits and pieces, is sure to report the matter to UEFA and Parma might find themselves paying a hefty financial penalty before they return to Europe — by virtue of their finishing fifth in the Italian League — in next season's UEFA Cup.

KEIR RADNEDGE

1994 CUP-WINNERS CUP FINAL

May 4 = Parken Stadium *(Copenhagen)*

ARSENAL 1		v	PARMA 0
Smith 19			
Seaman	1		Bucci
Dixon	2		Benarrivo
Winterburn	3		Di Chiara
Davis	4		Minotti
Bould	5		Apolloni
Adams	6		Sensini
Campbell	7		Brolin
Morrow	8		Pin
Smith	9		Crippa
Merson	10		Zola
Selley	11		Asprilla
Linighan	12		Maltagliati
Miller	13		Ballotta
Parlour	14		Balleri
Dickov	15		Zoratto
McGoldrick	16		Melli
George Graham		*Coach*	Nevio Scala

HT: 1-0. **Att:** 33,765. **Ref:** Krondl (Cze).

Substitutions: McGoldrick for Merson (86 mins), Melli for Pin (70 mins).

Man of the match: Steve Bould (Arsenal)

HOW ARSENAL WON IT

PARMA dominated the opening spell. In the first minute **Bould's** long, outstretched leg was needed to deny **Asprilla** as he raced menacingly on to **Brolin's** through pass. Three minutes later **Benarrivo** put in a dangerous, deep cross from the right and **Brolin's** header cleared the bar by inches.

Arsenal finally got their act together and forced two free-kicks at which skipper **Adams** looked dangerous with downward headers. Then **Campbell** had a chance to turn on to **Davis's** neat pass but had his shot blocked, a fate which also met **Selley's** follow-up.

Parma's clearance brought Arsenal's goal under threat. **Zola** swept a crossfield ball perfectly into **Brolin's** path but the Swede's powerful shot beyond **Seaman** bounced away off the inside of the far post. Five minutes later Arsenal's fans had switched from depression to delerium as **Minotti** miscued an acrobatic clearance attempt and **SMITH** strode forward to control the ball on his chest, then fire in off **Bucci's** left-hand post.

Parma replied by forcing two quick free-kicks on the edge of the Arsenal box — both bitterly disputed — but **Zola** failed to produce his dead-ball touch on either occasion. It was not until the 37th minute that Parma forced another genuine chance which produced an athletic tip-over save by **Seaman** after **Asprilla** and **Zola** interpassed their way through with the latter striking a firm half-volley towards goal.

Arsenal responded by showing their own style with a crisp five-man movement that ended with **Campbell's** shot blocked for a corner. When **Davis's** flag kick came curling over **Campbell** outjumped everybody to send a downward header crashing into **Pin's** legs. Parma collected two bookings in the closing minutes of the first-half for midfielder **Crippa,** who cut down **Campbell,** then **Asprilla** for a reckless late, challenge on **Adams.**

Parma piled on the pressure at the start of the second-half and **Selley** was booked for wasting time. In the 63rd minute **Dixon** almost landed a through ball on the end of **Campbell's** outstretched foot just 12 yards from the Parma goal and the Italians were fortunate when he failed narrowly to connect. A minute later **Adams's** headed clearance was snapped up by **Crippa,** who put **Benarrivo** away on the right. The full-back provided a low cross only for **Asprilla** to shoot wide.

In the 75th minute **Winterburn** collapsed near his own goal line, seemingly felled by a missile thrown from behind the Italian end. He was helped from the pitch but recovered after treatment.

Parma threw everything into one last attempt to save the game. **Asprilla** wriggled into the penalty box in search of an opening. When the **Dixon-Adams** combination held him at bay the ball ran only as far as **Crippa** whose volley flew over.

In injury time **Seaman** rushed from his goal to block **Asprilla** with his feet and the ball ended up in the net as both **Zola** and substitute **Melli** converged on the loose ball . . . but the referee correctly disallowed the shot for an earlier offside.

Smith almost grabbed a second Arsenal goal but goalkeeper **Bucci** scrambled his angled effort around a post.

ENGLAND'S GLORY IN THE ROLL OF HONOUR

1961 *1st leg:*	Fiorentina 2, Rangers 2
2nd leg:	Rangers 1, Fiorentina 2
	Fiorentina won 4-3 on agg
1962	Atletico Madrid 1, Fiorentina 1
1962 *Replay:*	Atletico Madrid 3, Fiorentina 0
1963	**TOTTENHAM** 5, Atletico Madrid 1
1964	Sporting Lisbon 3 MTK Budapest 3
1964 *Replay:*	Sporting Lisbon 1 MTK Budapest 0
1965	**WEST HAM** 2, TSV 1860 Munich 0
1966	Borussia Dortmund 2, Liverpool 1(aet)
1967	Bayern Munich 1, Rangers 0
1968	Milan 2, Hamburg 0
1969	Slovan Bratislava 3, Barcelona 2
1970	**MAN CITY** 2, Gornik Zabrze 1
1971	Chelsea 1, Real Madrid 1
1971 *Replay:*	**CHELSEA** 2, Real Madrid 1
1972	Rangers 3, Moscow Dynamo 2
1973	Milan 1, Leeds United 0
1974	Magdeburg 2, Milan 0
1975	Kiev Dynamo 3, Ferencvaros 0
1976	Anderlecht 4, West Ham United 2
1977	Hamburg 2, Anderlecht 0
1978	Anderlecht 4, FK Austria 0
1979	Barcelona 4, Fortuna Dusseldorf 3 (aet)
1980	Valencia 0, Arsenal 0
	Valencia won 5-4 on pens
1981	Tbilisi Dynamo 3, Carl Zeiss Jena 1
1982	Barcelona 2, Standard Liege 1
1983	Aberdeen 2, Real Madrid 1
1984	Juventus 2, FC Porto 1
1985	**EVERTON** 3, Rapid Vienna 1
1986	Kiev Dynamo 3, Atletico Madrid 0
1987	Ajax Amsterdam 1, Lokomotiv Leipzig 0
1988	Mechelen 1, Ajax Amsterdam 0
1989	Barcelona 2, Sampdoria 0
1990	Sampdoria 2, Anderlecht 0
1991	**MAN UNITED** 2, Barcelona 1
1992	Werder Bremen 2, Monaco 0
1993	Parma 3, Antwerp 1
1994	**ARSENAL** 1, Parma 0

Master marksman . . . Alan Smith's shot is on its way, with two Parma defenders just too late to intervene.

Commentary

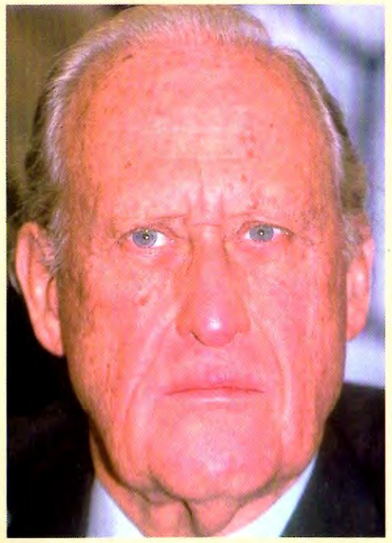
Keir Radnedge

From NEW YORK THE SLEEPY CENTRAL AND NORTH AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFEDERATION AWOKE WITH A START WHEN THE UNITED STATES WON THE RIGHT TO STAGE THE 1994 WORLD CUP FINALS. IN A FEW SHORT YEARS, A BACKWATER CONFEDERATION HAS TURNED INTO ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PLAYERS IN THE POLITICS OF WORLD FOOTBALL. THE EVIDENCE WAS THERE FOR ALL — AND *WORLD SOCCER* IN PARTICULAR — TO SEE DURING THE CONCACAF CONGRESS IN NEW YORK'S PLAZA HOTEL.

EXCLUSIVE

32-team World Cup presents new challenge to Europe

All to play for . . . New Zealand and Australia can look forward to an easier route to the World Cup finals in 1998.



FOUR European nations will be faced with home-and-away inter-continental play-offs when the World Cup is extended to 32 finalists in time for France '98.

That is the challenge thrown down by proposals being considered by world football chiefs and which was such a convenient aid for FIFA president Joao Havelange (left) after he had secured everyone's support for a further four-year term of office.

The proposal for 32 teams came not from Havelange this time, though, but from CONCACAF and was presented towards the end of the meeting between Havelange and the regional confederations, when it became plain that he had the votes to staying for a further term, whatever reservations anybody may have had.

Reservations there are aplenty — as we have set out here before — but the rest of the world bar Europe had even greater reservations about a Johnny-come-lately candidate to run the game (whether he be Sepp Blatter, FIFA general secretary, or poor, humiliated Antonio Matarrese, the Italian president, who was proposed by UEFA but never even got as far as stating his case).

And so to the 32-team World Cup. Havelange wanted the best of both worlds. He wanted to give additional World Cup places to football's developing world while maintaining the status quo for Europe and South America. Going to 32 nations for France '98 means he can do that. This is how: Africa will have four finalists (instead of three); CONCACAF will have three finalists (instead of two); Asia will have three finalists (instead of two); Oceania will have one finalist (instead of none); South America will have three finalists guaranteed (instead of two); the holders will remain guaranteed; and Europe will have a status quo of 13 finalists including the hosts.

This leaves four places open which will be contested in home-and-away two-leg ties in which four teams from Europe will face one each from Africa, Asia, CONCACAF and South America. At last, the prospect of jet-age World Cup qualification will be coming true.

The 32 would be split in to eight — instead of six — groups of four so the finals need not take any longer than the current month. Also only two teams would progress from each group, killing that horrible "lucky losers" third-place farrago.

The French organisers, says co-president Fernand Sastre, are quite amenable to the idea of a 32-team finals though one feels quality will suffer further as the lowest common denominator of talent sinks still lower. France can do it. But several countries who might have stretched themselves to host a 24-team finals will be ruled out of the running for 32 teams.

And it does not necessarily follow, as some have speculated, that Europe will see more World Cup hostings in the years to come, precisely because of this. Indeed, Europe's alternate staging of the World Cup finals will become history if an African proposal is approved by FIFA Congress in Chicago on the eve of the World Cup finals.

The proposal, from Tunisia and supported by Egypt, Mali and Somalia, is that host rights to the World Cup should, in future, rotate automatically between all FIFA's five regional confederations — Europe, Africa, Asia, North-and-Central America and South America.

The present arrangement is merely that the World Cup switches between unspecified continents which means, in practice, that Europe alternates with the rest of the world. Thus the 1990 finals were in Italy, this year it is the United States (for North and Central America) then France in 1998 and Japan or South Korea (for Asia) in 2002.

After that, the European federations had fondly imagined that the World Cup would revert to Europe in 2006 with Germany already established as strong favourites after declaring an early candidacy. Of course, England could be contenders as well, assuming all goes well at the 1996 European Championship (England will have plenty of all-seater stadia available — which is more than the Germans can say).

FIFA general secretary Blatter, addressing the CONCACAF Congress in New York, said: "The proposal would mean a formal rotation of the World Cup between the five confederations. It would only bypass a confederation if they chose to waive their rights."

The complication is that only a minority of nations possess the infrastructure, technology and finance to cope with 24 finalists, let alone the proposed 32. Thus FIFA may yet need to consider, as UEFA have done regarding the European Championship, permitting countries to share World Cup hosts rights.

Speculation, already raised, that Japan and South Korea may be asked to share the 2002 World Cup has been greeted with incredulity in both countries. Given 20th Century history, it is hard to imagine them joining forces. Could you imagine the Opening Match, say, in Seoul and the Final in Tokyo?

The Japanese can't; neither can the Koreans.

Final whistle for the Soviet Union

FIFA'S all-powerful executive committee could expand if an Egyptian proposal is approved by FIFA Congress in Chicago in June.

The proposal would provide one member more for CONCACAF, Asia, Africa and Europe and is part of the manoeuvring provoked by the break-up of the Soviet Union.

Immediately after World War Two a clause in the agreement by which the Soviet Union entered FIFA was the guarantee of a permanent vice-president (the same entry right was granted to the four British Home Countries). Now that the USSR has collapsed, so has the historical imperative of its vice-president. Vyacheslav Koloskov, formerly the Soviet representative and now "just" Russia, stayed on pending a decision on the issue by FIFA Congress.

As you may imagine, the in-fighting has been intense. The Russians wanted to keep the vice-presidency for themselves; failing that, Europe hoped to keep it within Europe; failing that the Africans believed they deserved it. Now everyone may gain an extra bite of the cherry.

Olympic cash boost for Americans

THE United States Federation are already seeing a financial benefit from the decision to accept women's football into the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games.

The April meeting of the board of the USSF learned that the US Olympic Committee have decided to increase their grant to the USSF Olympic programme by $104,000 to $680,000. The USOC have demanded, in return, a greater level of accountability for which a USSF sub-committee is duly preparing.

The money is granted to supplement the USSF's Olympic effort, not cover total costs.

Dilemma for Rothenberg

Alan I. Rothenbe

ALAN ROTHENBERG has been, at international level, an outstanding president of the US Federation. That is, he has made things happen as far as the World Cup is concerned and he has been there, in front of both press and public, to talk about things happening.

Not that everything has gone according to plan. The professional league was supposed to have been in position before the World Cup rather than proposed for a year after it; also, the American media, in particular, have taken a very dim view — to say the least — of a demand that the FBI and any other two-bit private investigator be granted *carte blanche* to trawl through personal data on every accredited journalist.

It is also true to say that Rothenberg's high profile before the USSF in his dual role as president of both the Federation and USA '94 cuts little ice within his own constituency. For one thing, elements within the US "Soccer Family" are uncertain whether Rothenberg's continuing presidency of the USSF would sit happily with his role as commissioner of the Major League Soccer which should open for business next year.

Rothenberg is reportedly advised that no constitutional barrier exists. But USSF treasurer Richard Groff, a tax attorney, intends to stand for the presidency at the annual meeting in August and Rothenberg's executive vice-president, Hank des Bordes, is another likely contestant.

The complex voting formula within the USSF, split in variously weighted parts between amateur, college and professional sections, makes the outcome almost impossible to call. Of course, nobody would blame Rothenberg, after all his work in two roles over the past three years, if he decided to return to a concentration on one job (i.e. heading MLS).

Much will depend on progress in obtaining the necessary $10million to fund the MLS launch. Mid-June is the deadline.

CONGRESS CORNERS

ON THE Friday night of the Congress, the Long Island Rough Riders met the Detroit Wheels before some 3,000 fans in the US Inter-regional Soccer League (a sort of US Third Division). Plenty of skill. Plenty of stamina. Plenty of enthusiasm. Plenty to build on.

The venue was an historic one, out at windy Mitchell Field from which Charles Lindbergh took off on his historic transatlantic flight. An omen for soccer history? If so, it was lost on the visiting dignitaries to Congress, none of whom put in an appearance. Pity.

ONE region delighted by the prospect of a 32-team World Cup is Oceania. Secretary Jo King, a guest and observer at Congress, readily saw that a guaranteed place at the finals for an Oceania team may lift her Confederation back to full consideration within FIFA — rather than its present second-class-citizen status.

SOCIAL high point of Congress was the Hall of Fame dinner at which admission was conferred upon former officials Kurt Lamm of the US, George Abrahams of Jamaica (both posthumously) and Javier Arriaga of Mexico.

CONCACAF's new offices on the 17th floor of Trump Tower in Fifth Avenue house an industrial complex in miniature. Capital investment means CONCACAF can undertake in-house all its own engraving work, T-shirt printing and publishing.

CONCACAF president Jack Warner, in addresses to the two dinners which preceded Congress, surprised many delegates by envisaging a future in which CONCACAF and CONMEBOL might one day fuse into one governing body for the entire Americas. CONMEBOL president Nicolas Leoz, clearly comfortable with the "next century" nature of the proposal, clapped Warner on the shoulders saying: "Then you can be its first president!"

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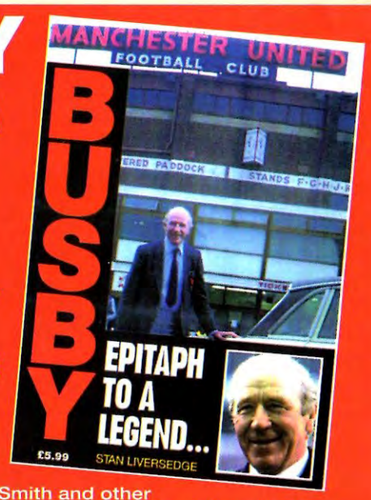

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ITALY

BY PADDY AGNEW

Three-point plan to revolutionise Calcio

THREE POINTS for a win will be introduced to Serie A as from next season. This is probably the most significant development of the entire Italian year, and follows an agreement between the Football Federation and League.

While much attention was understandably focussed on newsworthy happenings such as the return of Dutchman Ruud Gullit to his old hunting ground of Milan, the departure of Juventus coach Giovanni Trapattoni to Bayern Munich and Napoli's last-gasp qualification for next season's UEFA Cup, the proposal by Federation President Antonio Matarrese to introduce the three points system passed relatively unnoticed, especially outside Italy.

"Strange" results on the last couple of championship days had provoked Matarrese's anger.

Milan's only home defeatof the season, 1-0 on the final day by Reggiana, was enough to allow the winners to survive in Serie A at the expense of Piacenza, who were held to a not overly competitive 0-0 draw on the same day by a Parma side whose minds were thoroughly concentrated on their forthcoming Cup-winners Cup Final against Arsenal.

Other recent draws involving Cagliari-Milan, Piacenza-Juventus, Reggiana-Sampdoria, Cremonese-Genoa, Atalanta-Napoli and Cremonese-Torino had not pleased Matarrese, who said: "People are unhappy about the final days of the season, which they claim were a farce.

"I am unhappy too. The first solution to the problem will be the three points for a win".

The last days of the Italian season inevitably had a strange feel about them.

Champions Milan, having mathematically sewn up the contest, clearly lost interest at that point.

Sampdoria, with a place in the UEFA Cup booked five days before the end and with an Italian Cup Final to contest (won emphatically 6-1 against the hapless Second Divison side Ancona), also forgot about the championship as witness a draw with Reggiana and a loss to Lazio in their last outings.

UEFA Cup qualifiers Juventus and Lazio, and UEFA Cup finallists Internazionale were other sides whose concentration was not all it might have been over the final few days.

For the time being, Matarrese's proposal has to go before a federation executive meeting but, by the time you read this, it could well be that Italy will have introduced potentially the most radical change made in the country's soccer since the war.

If you think that is an exaggeration look at the Milan statistics — 36 goals scored, 15 conceded, in 34 games. No Italian championship-winning side has ever scored or conceded so few goals. There is not the slightest doubt that Milan were the best side in the land. But they still picked up 12 of their 50 points from draws.

If Milan next season find themselves having to play for a win more often than this year, then they will at least be able to count on one of the most prolific goalscorers in the land, namely 31-year-old Gullit of Sampdoria, who closed his seasonal account with a best-ever score of 15 goals.

If being able to admit your mistakes is an indication of greatness, then Milan are a great club.

Last year, they off-loaded Gullit for the UEFA regulation fee of $700,000, having decided that he was finished. This summer, they will buy him back for close on $1.9million, while Gullit's annual salary will be a healthy after-tax figure of $1.2million.

"My decision is to go back to Milan, on a year's contract, and then we'll see," he said. "I'm going back because Milan is part of me, it's there that I achieved some important results."

Juventus coach Trapattoni is another famous name to set off this summer in search of new stimulus.

"Il Trap", as he is known in the Italian media, saw the warning signs as far back as January when former Juventus and Italy forward Roberto Bettega was appointed club president.

Bettega, who played under Trapattoni during a period when the side won six Italian titles, made little secret of the fact that he felt the time had come for a change of coach.

Trapattoni accordingly was snapped up by acting Bayern coach, Franz Beckenbauer, influenced by current Bayern captain Lothar Matthaus, who won a 1989 championship medal with an Inter side then coached by Trapattoni.

A one-year contract, an annual salary of $650,000 and ample freedom to reinforce the side were offered as inducement to Trapattoni, who will make history by becoming the first Italian coach to be "exported".

During their time at Inter, Trapattoni and Matthaus regularily disagreed on tactical disposition with the German claiming that his Italian coach was too defence minded.

News that Matthaus, initially at least, would act as interpreter for Trapattoni sparked the imagination of one *Gazzetta Dello Sport* cartoonist. He portrayed an anxious Trapattoni on the sideline, saying to Matthaus: "Lothar, tell them to drop back and defend." To which, Matthaus retorted: "Lads, the boss says to move forward and attack."

Trapattoni's departure from Juventus, who incidentally finished second in the table "only" three points behind Milan, makes way for Marcello Lippi, current Napoli coach.

Llppi had underlined his ability by taking his liquidation-threatened side into Europe with a fine late-season run that included one of Milan's only three defeats of the season.

The box-office bonanza of European competition, potentially worth $6million, has saved Napoli from liquidation.

Their major creditors (a series of Neopolitan banks) have now been convinced that the club consortium led by President Ellenio Gallo can set to rights a desperately sick balance sheet showing debts estimated at $50million.

In the meantime, however, some of the club's best players, including Uruguyan striker Daniel Fonseca, captain Ciro Ferrara, Swedish midfielder Jonas Thern and attacker Paolo Di Canio, all could be on the transfer market this summer.

Runners-up Juventus, already building for the future, have done a deal with Portugal's Sporting Lisbon, with Brazilian centre-back Julio Cesar going to Lisbon and midfielder Paulo Sousa going in the opposite direction.

Final thought this month concerns AS Roma coach Carlo Mazzone.

On the final day, when his side defeated Torino 2-0, he said: "I have to compliment the club president, Franco Sensi, on his courage.

"He broke all known records when sticking with a coach who had gone 14 games without a single victory."

Champions again . . . Milan celebrate another success.

RESULTS

SERIE A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	34	19	12	3	36	15	50
Juventus	34	17	13	4	58	25	47
Sampdoria	34	18	8	8	64	39	44
Lazio	34	17	10	7	55	40	44
Parma	34	17	7	10	50	35	41
Napoli	34	12	12	10	41	35	36
AS Roma	34	10	15	9	35	30	35
Torino	34	11	12	11	39	37	34
Foggia	34	10	13	11	46	46	33
Cremonese	34	9	14	11	41	41	32
Genoa	34	8	16	10	32	40	32
Cagliari	34	10	12	12	39	48	32
Internazionale	34	11	9	14	46	45	31
Reggiana	34	10	11	13	29	37	31
Piacenza	34	8	14	12	32	43	30
Udinese	34	7	14	13	35	48	28
Atalanta	34	5	11	18	35	65	21
Lecce	34	3	5	26	28	72	11

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

WEEKEND

NAPOLI 1 (Di Canio 80)
MILAN 0. **Att:** 50,000.

SAMPDORIA 6 (Vierchowod 1, Mancini 8, 91, Gullit 58, Platt 82, 87)
FOGGIA 0. **Att:** 27,000.

CAGLIARI 0
JUVENTUS 1 (Ravanelli 82 pen). **Att:** 23,000.

TORINO 1 (Francescoli 87)
LAZIO 1 (Casiraghi 73). **Att:** 21,500.

PARMA 2 (Minotti 13, Apolloni 48)
ATALANTA 1 (Apolloni 10 og). **Att:** 22,000.

INTERNAZIONALE 1 (Schillaci 3)
GENOA 3 (Ruotolo 27, 90, Skuhravy 27). **Att:** 40,000.

UDINESE 2 (Helveg 4, Calori 81)
PIACENZA 2 (Papais 42 pen, Ferrante 54). Att: 25,000.

CREMONESE 1 (Giandebiaggi 70)
REGGIANA 1 (Padovano 25). **Att:** 12,628.

AS ROMA 3 (Rizzitelli 21, Balbo 46, Cappioli 60)
LECCE 0. **Att:** 54,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

WEEKEND

ATALANTA 1 (G. Battistini 45 og)
UDINESE 1 (Borgonovo 78). **Att:** 17,000.

CREMONESE 0
SAMPDORIA 0. **Att:** 10,000.

FOGGIA 1 (Stroppa 18)
PIACENZA 0. **Att:** 20,000.

GENOA 1 (Onorati 59)
LAZIO 1 (Signori 62). **Att:** 28,000.

JUVENTUS 1 (R. Ferri 85 og)
INTERNAZIONALE 0. **Att:** 45,000.

MILAN 1 (Massaro 73)
PARMA 1 (Zola 84 pen). **Att:** 69,000.

REGGIANA 1 (Padovano 69 pen)
NAPOLI 0. **Att:** 13,000.

AS ROMA 2 (Rizzitelli 5, Balbo 63)
CAGLIARI 0. **Att:** 59,000.

LECCE 1 (Baldieri 40)
TORINO 2 (Venturin 15, Silenzi 28 pen). **Att:** 7,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MIDWEEK

REGGIANA 2 (Esposito 3, Padovano 73)
PARMA 0. **Att:** 23,000.

Juventus scorer . . . Jurgen Kohler.

ITALIAN CUP FINAL — 1ST LEG

ANCONA 0
SAMPDORIA 0. **Att:** 30,000

WEEKEND

TORINO 0
MILAN 0. **Att:** 35,000.

NAPOLI 0
JUVENTUS 0. **Att:** 50,000.

SAMPDORIA 1 (Jugovic 15)
GENOA 1 (Vink 13). **Att:** 45,000.

LAZIO 3 (Signori 67, 77, 92)
ATALANTA 1 (Valentini 50). **Att:** 43,000.

PARMA 0
AS ROMA 2 (Balbo 18, Festa 89). **Att:** 26,000.

INTERNAZIONALE 4 (Jonk 19, 47; Bergkamp 50 pen, Berti 81)
LECCE 1 (Baldieri 86). **Att:** 44,000.

PIACENZA 1 (De Vitis 40)
CREMONESE 1 (Gualco 77). **Att:** 16,000.

UDINESE 3 (Pizzi 9 pen, Helveg 54, Gelsi 71)
FOGGIA 0. **Att:** 17,000.

CAGLIARI 3 (Dely Valdes 5, 14, 43)
REGGIANA 0. **Att:** 23,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17

WEEKEND

MILAN 2 (Boban 50, Simone 70)
UDINESE 2 (Costacurta 69 og, Rossitto 71). Att: 75,000.

JUVENTUS 6 (Vialli 5, 74, 82, Bacci 11 og, Kohler 15. R. Baggio 88)
LAZIO 1 (Signori 57). **Att:** 35,000.

SAMPDORIA 3 (Vierchowod 21, Evani 69, Amoruso 92)
INTERNAZIONALE 1 (S. Battistini 26). **Att:** 28,000.

PARMA 3 (Asprilla 30, Zola 47, Crippa 79)
CAGLIARI 1 (Criniti 89). **Att:** 24,000.

CREMONESE 1 (Fusi 16 og)
TORINO 1 (Sordo 9). **Att:** 6,000.

ATALANTA 1 (Morfeo 8)
NAPOLI 1 (Buso 15). **Att:** 15,000.

AS ROMA 3 (Rizzitelli 21, Carannante 26 og, A. Carboni 38)
PIACENZA 1 (Iacobelli 45). **Att:** 54,000.

FOGGIA 3 (Kolyvanov 36, Roy 74, 86)
GENOA 0. **Att:** 20,000.

LECCE 2 (Ceramicola 8, O. Russo 67)
REGGIANA 4 (Melchiori 30 og, Esposito 33, Padovano 45, Lantignotti 85). **Att:** 6,000.

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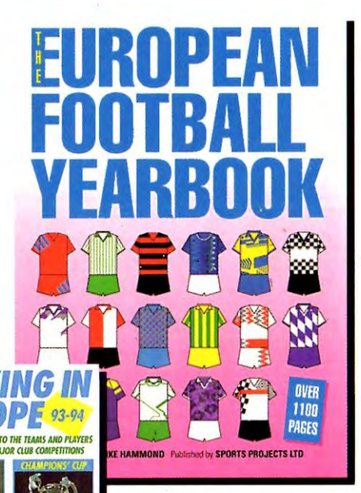

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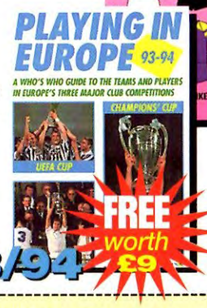

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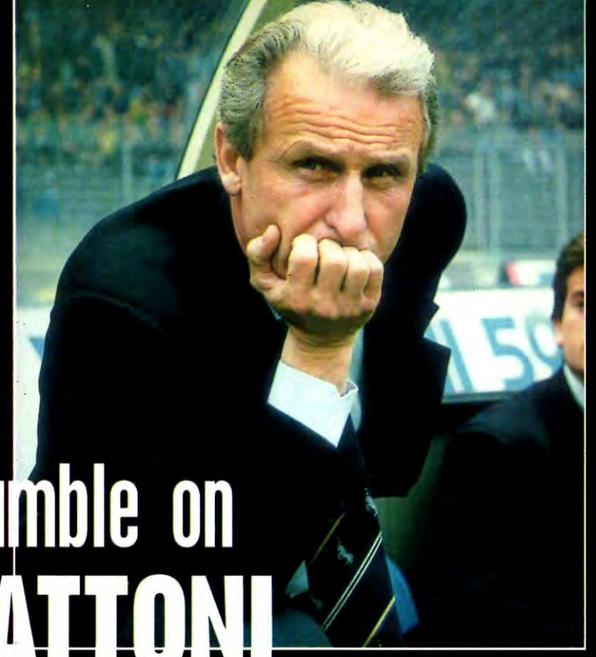
GERMANY

BY ARTHUR ROTMIL



Bayern gamble on TRAPATTONI

BAYERN MUNICH featured in two major sensations within three days as the German League reached a dramatic climax.

First they clinched the signing of Juventus coach Giovanni Trapattoni for next season. Then they were ordered to replay a crucial match because of the "goal that never was".

Trapattoni's arrival during the summer, to succeed Franz Beckenbauer, is a massive break with tradition.

Top Italian coaches hardly ever move abroad and the venture is as remarkable a gamble by 55-year-old Trapattoni — who has everything to lose and little to win — as it is by the club.

Trapattoni signed a one-year contract with an option for another season, but financial details were not revealed.

After a distinguished playing career, Trapattoni turned to coaching and won six Italian League titles with Juventus and one with Internazionale, that was in 1988-89, when Lothar Matthaus was at the Milan club. The two men also helped Inter to their UEFA Cup triumph in 1991.

Beckenbauer, who had intended to give up coaching at the end of the season, had begun rebuilding for the next campaign in Europe and at home. France striker Jean-Pierre Papin has been recruited from Milan, and Karlsruhe goalkeeper Oliver Kahn — likely No. 3 in Germany's World Cup squad — is expected to sign.

The "play it again" order came after video evidence that referee Hans-Joachin Osmers had been wrong to allow a goal against Nurnberg in a match that Bayern won 2-1. TV pictures showed that Thomas Helmer's shot did not cross the line, and ran wide of a post instead.

This was the second time in German soccer history that a replay has been ordered because of a refereeing mistake spotted by the cameras. In 1978 the DFB ruled that a match between Borussia Neunkirchen and Stuttgart Kickers be replayed because Neunkirchen's "winner" had not gone into the net.

The latest ruling, made after Nurnberg protested to the DFB, is vital to the title race and to Nurnberg's hopes of avoiding relegation.

Bayern had led Kaiserslautern at the top by two points with two games remaining. But the ruling leaves them level on points, with exactly the same goal difference. Bayern were ahead because they had scored 60 goals to Nurnberg's 59.The replay gave Nurnberg another chance to pick up vital points to avoid relegation, which would be disastrous to their hopes of clearing debts of more than $12 million.

Bayern decided not to appeal against the ruling, which provoked claims that television is undermining the power of a referee on the pitch.

Beckenbauer claimed that the decision put his team at a disadvantage. "While opponents rest we must play three games in eight days," he said. "We couldn't do anything about the decision, but we end up being penalised."

In the end, Bayern had no trouble winning 5-0 to stay in first place.

Bayern were further upset when the DFB refused to release Matthaus and Helmer from the national team's game against the United Arab Emirates in Abu Dhabi.

The match had been arranged at short notice after the cancellation of the game against England in Berlin, and Germany won 2-0 with goal by Ulf Kirsten and Maurizio Gaudino.

On the European front, German clubs suffered a total blackout, although some were decidedly unlucky. Leverkusen went out of the Cup-winners Cup on the away goals rule. In the UEFA Cup, Karlsruhe, Frankfurt and Dortmund all fell, and Werder Bremen made little impression on the Champions League.

RESULTS

BUNDESLIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	33	16	10	7	66	37	42
Kaiserslautern	33	17	7	9	61	35	41
Karlsruhe	33	14	10	9	45	38	38
Bayer Leverkusen	33	13	11	9	57	45	37
Bor. Dortmund	33	14	9	10	45	44	37
Ein. Frankfurt	33	14	8	11	54	39	36
Duisburg	33	14	8	11	41	50	36
Borussia Mg	33	14	7	12	63	55	35
VfB Stuttgart	33	12	11	10	48	43	35
Werder Bremen	33	12	10	11	47	42	34
Koln	33	14	6	13	47	48	34
Hamburg	33	13	8	12	47	49	34
Dynamo Dresden	33	10	14	9	33	41	34
Schalke	33	10	9	14	38	48	29
Nurnberg	33	10	8	15	40	51	28
Freiburg	33	9	8	16	52	57	26
Wattenscheid	33	5	11	17	43	69	21
VfB Leipzig	33	3	11	19	30	66	17

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 20

WEEKEND

BAYERN MUNICH 0
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0. Att: 42,000.

DYNAMO DRESDEN 0
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 4 (Becker 29, Gaudino 63, Yeboah 65, Falkenmayer 87). Att: 14,100.

DUISBURG 0
HAMBURG 1 (Von Heesen 78). Att: 20,800.

LEVERKUSEN 3 (Foda 28 pen, Worns 63, Sergio 72)
KAISERSLAUTERN 2 (Brehme 33 pen, Kuka 87). Att: 14,000.

SCHALKE 2 (Anderbrugge 73, 89)
KARLSRUHE 0. Att: 26,500.

STUTTGART 3 (F. Walker 16, Knup 44, Buchwald 89)
BORUSSIA MG 0. Att: 28,000.

LEIPZIG 2 (Anders 83, Rische 89)
KOLN 3 (Polster 48, pen, 88, Baumann 50). Att: 5,500.

FREIBURG 0
NURNBERG 0. Att: 15,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

MIDWEEK

BAYERN MUNICH 0
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0. Att: 42,000.

WATTENSCHEID 2 (Fink 42, Ridder 89)
WERDER BREMEN 2 (Bode 34, 62). Att: 5,500.

WEEKEND

HAMBURG 1 (Albertz 53)
BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Valencia 76, Sternkopf 77). Att: 58,000.

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 0
VfB STUTTGART 0. Att: 34,000.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Franck 34, Zorc 80)
WATTENSCHEID 0. Att: 41,491.

BORUSSIA MG 6 (Dahlin 23, 43, 53, Klinkert 39, Kastenmaier 75, Wynhoff 87)
VfB LEIPZIG 1 (Rische 55). Att: 19,000.

NURNBERG 2 (Golke 28, U. Wolf 70)
BAYER LEVERKUSEN 3 (Worns 39, Sergio 81, Thom 87). Att: 28,800.

KARLSRUHE 2 (E. Schmitt 39, Schutterle 66)
FREIBURG 1 (Cardoso 22). Att: 37,000.

WERDER BREMEN 0
SCHALKE 1 (H. Herzog 26). Att: 22,874.

KAISERSLAUTERN 0
DYNAMO DRESDEN 0. Att: 32,400.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

WEEKEND

BAYERN MUNICH 1 (Valencia 68)
KOLN 0. Att: 52,000.

FREIBURG 2 (Cardoso 12, Rraklli 71)
SCHALKE 3 (Sendscheid 8, Anderbrugge 68, Mulder 83). Att: 15,000.

BAYER LEVERKLUSEN 3 (Paulo Sergio 20, Worns 68, B. Schuster 85)
KARLSRUHE 1 (E. Schmitt 60). Att: 16,900.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 3 (S. Chapuisat 55, 67, 72)
WERDER BREMEN 2 (Basler 31, M. Bode 81). Att: 42,800.

VfB LEIPZIG 1 (Rische 28)
EINTRACHT FRANFURT 0. Att: 8,500.

DUISBURG 2 (Weidemann 21, P. Kozle 83)
BORUSSIA MG 0. Att: 29,000.

WATTENSCHEID 3 (Lesniak 57, 82, Emmerling 62)
HAMBURG 1 (Emmerling 63 og). Att: 4,000.

DYNAMO DRESDEN 1 (Maucksch 56)
NURNBERG 1 (A. Sutter 20). At: 23,000.

VfB STUTTGART 1 (Knup 8)
KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Kadlec 21). Att: 36,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MIDWEEK

BORUSSIA MG 2 (Herrlich 88, 90)
BAYERN MUNICH 0. Att: 33,500.

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 1 (Yeboah 75)
DUISBURG 2 (Weidemann 25, 90). Att: 24,352.

SCHALKE 1 (Mulder 41)
BAYER LEVERKUSEN 1 (Paulo Sergio 74). Att: 35,000.

KARLSRUHE 1 (Bonan 65)
DYNAMO DRESDEN 0. Att: 20,000.

KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Sforza 88)
VfB LEIPZIG 0. Att: 30,511.

HAMBURG 0
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0. Att: 30,450.

NURNBERG 1 (A. Sutter 53)
VfB STUTTGART 0. Att: 38,000.

KOLN 3 (Bach 5 og, Kohn 18, 61)
WATTENSCHEID 2 (Lesniak 49, Sane 73). Att: 21,000.

WERDER BREMEN 3 (Neubarth 7, 11, 75)
FREIBURG 2 (Spies 44, Borodjuk 89). Att: 19,057.

WEEKEND

BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Scholl 39, Matthaus 54 pen)
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 1 (Yeboah 45). Att: 64,000.

DUISBURG 1 (P. Kozle 46)
KAISERSLAUTERN 7 (Wagner 8, Kuka 50, 58, 87, Brehme 60 pen, 69 pen, Roos 86). Att: 30,000.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Zorc 40)
KOLN 1 (Higl 42 og). Att: 43,000.

VfB STUTTGART 3 (Buck 44, Sverrisson 65, O. Kogl 73 pen)
KARLSRUHE 0. Att: 42,000.

HAMBURG 1 (Baron 41)
WERDER BREMEN 1 (A. Herzog 6). Att: 37,000.

WATTENSCHEID 3 (Fink 18, Sane 47, Wolters 52)
BORUSSIA MG 1 (Alter 35 og). Att: 10,000.

DYNAMO DRESDEN 1 (Penksa 56)
SCHALKE 0. Att: 21,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17

MIDWEEK

KAISERSLAUTERN 4 (Wagner 58, Kuka 65, 89, Sforza 84)
BAYERN MUNICH 0. Att: 40,500.

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 5 (Yeboah 25, Reis 29, Binz 51, Dickhaut 54, Skok 66 og)
WATTENSCHEID 1 (Sane 86). Att: 19,000.

WERDER BREMEN 2 (Basler 34, 80)
BAYER LEVERKUSEN 1 (Kirsten 90). Att: 22,526.

KARLSRUHE 3 (Schmarov 19, Schmitt 34, Schutterle 87)
VfB LEIPZIG 2 (Heidrich 72, Pancev 89). Att: 16,000.

BORUSSIA MG 0
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0. Att: 32,000.

SCHALKE 0
VfB STUTTGART 1 (Knup 30). Att: 35,840.

KOLN 3 (Kohn 22, Polster 63, Sturm 86)
HAMBURG 0. Att: 37,000.

NURNBERG 0
DUISBURG 0. Att: 39,500.

FREIBURG 0
DYNAMO DRESDEN 1 (H. Fuchs 85). Att: 15,000.

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SPAIN

BY GRAHAM TURNER

Enough to make a King quit

REAL ZARAGOZA duly obliged the crystal-ball brigade by winning the Spanish Cup, but how they had to sweat for it.

Both they and Celta took nearly 30,000 fans from Aragon and Galicia, and the Atletico Madrid president, Jesus Gil, might have managed a cynical smile about the best attendance of the season at the Manzanares.

Unfortunately, the singing and dancing on the terraces was by far the best feature in a two-day fixture which finished at 00.30 after nearly three hours of "entertainment" which must have had King Juan Carlos toying with the idea of abdication.

So let's resort to the old cliches about an intense final which was tactically absorbing, while bearing in mind that, on the following morning, the Spanish press voted the goalkeepers as men of the match. Not that they were overworked: they were the only two who did not make mistakes.

Victor Fernandez had team selection complicated by the two-match ban on Argentinian striker Juan Eduardo Esnaider.

Instead of introducing understudy Moises, Fernandez opted to given an additional midfield place to Nayim (above) who, in three years, thus collected a double of English and Spanish Cup-winning medals. "Paguete" Higuera was left as sole operator up front, with assistance from Miguel Pardeza. But they both summed up the frustrations which almost cost Zaragoza the title.

The side had produced an astonishing rally after reaching November in penultimate position, but the League and Cup campaigns have taken a heavy toll on a limited squad. Although they were technically superior to Celta, they were second best on pace, strength and anticipation.

Santi Canizares made two outstanding saves in the opening 20 minutes, and Celta realised that they had a chance against opponents not firing on all cylinders.

Left-back Jorge Otero was outstanding in a snappy defence and Vicente Engonga, in front of the defence, tried to spray the ball around. But Bosnian striker Vladimir Gudelj was Celta's only offensive weapon and the final soon developed into one of those bouts where one fighter is clearly winning on points but does not look capable of producing a knock-out.

The best of their rare chances was a last-minute header from Salva that Andoni Cedrun turned away for a corner.

The anchor man in Zaragoza's midfield, Santi Aragon, was promptly dismissed for a second clumsy tackle from behind and left his team to play extra time with 10 men. Celta carried on buzzing but could not get in for the sting.

Their coach, former Bilbao winger Chechu Rojo, seemed happy with the draw, evidently confident that Canizares would stop a spot-kick or two.

He could not have foreseen that a strange mishap was to decide the Cup. Alejo, shaping up to take the last of Celta's opening series of five penalties, caught a boot on the turf, so that Cedrun had time to correct his dive and smoother the ball.

Higuera then converted Zaragoza's fifth, and subsequent proceedings were all about unbridled joy in Aragon.

A crowd of 100,000 greeted the players as they offered the trophy to the statue of the Virgen del Pilar in the Basilica at Zaragoza on the following day.

This was Zaragoza's first Cup win since they beat Terry Venables's Barcelona 1-0 in 1986, and must be considered a just reward for an outstanding campaign marked by some very attractive football.

Poor old Celta, a stubbed toe away from their first title (maybe they should join the Stubbuteo league), were left to limp back to Vigo and resume their fight against relegation with a gentle home fixture against . . . Barcelona. They rounded off their week by being thrashed 4-0.

With Deportivo La Coruna slugging out a goalless draw in Lleida on the same night, their lead was reduced to two points, and then to one with only two games left. Barcelona, despite a prolonged spell of indifferent form, had maintained their challenge as well as reaching another European final.

Romario was a notable absentee from Vigo. He had collapsed like a dynamited chimney during the previous game, against Valencia, and his insistence on being carried off suggested something vastly more serious than an attack of dandruff. The diagnosis, however, was a knock on the shin and a slightly sprained ankle ligament. The club doctor accompanied Romario to Paris, where he had been due to play for Brazil, so that the national team doc could confirm a knock on the shin and slightly sprained ankle ligament.

Romario then let slip the real reason for six games without adding to his total of 27 goals, and keeping his promise of at least 30 on the back burner. "I don't think I'm playing well," he claimed, "because I'm not going out at night."

As it happened, fate — in the shape of the Champions League — had brought him face to face with FC Porto boss Bobby Robson, witness to Romario's programme of destruction-testing on Philips bulbs during his sojourn in Eindhoven, and now witness to his own club's 3-0 destruction by a rampant Barca squad with goals by Stoichkov (two) and Koeman.

Coach Cruff, as usual, had decided to lay down his law and Romario had retired into his shell. "I once went out on 20 consecutive nights," he said, "and I scored 13 goals in four games."

The key to Brazil's World Cup chances could be those San Francisco Nights . . .

Zaragoza's win in the Spanish Cup had provoked relief in other cities, having released one more UEFA Cup place for the front runners.

Real Madrid were among them. After the burst of fireworks greeting new coach Vicente Del Bosque's arrival in the dugout, Real soon reverted to the damp-squib performances which have marred their season.

Comprehensive defeats in Vigo and Bilbao eliminated their mathematical hopes of a League triumph, and recent efforts have been diverted towards solving the cash-flow crisis.

Coach **Camacho's** clincher

ESPANOL clinched their return to the First Division with a month to spare, thanks in large part to the coaching attitudes of the former Real Madrid left-back, Jose Antonio Camacho (right).

He drilled his side in the basic realities of Second Division soccer and they have capitalised on the World Cup talent of the Russian pair, Igor Korneyev and Dimitri Kuznetsov. But promotion hardly allows Barcelona's second club to throw away the worry beads. A year in the Second has generated a trading loss of £5 million, which leaves the "Budgies" flapping around under a £25m millstone.

As things stand, reinforcing the squad seems out of the question and First Division survival for the 1988 UEFA Cup Finalists could be problematical.

They could be joined by Real Betis who, after being distracted by their run into the Spanish Cup semi-finals, sacked Croatian manager Sergei Kresic and appointed former Mallorca boss Lorenzo Serra Ferrer.

He promptly fell out with Swedish signing Johnny Ekstrom, who has not even been making the squad of 16, but the side embarked on a winning streak to go into second place ahead of early pacemakers such as Compostela, Toledo and Mallorca.

RESULTS

PRIMERA DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
La Coruna	36	21	11	4	52	18	53
Barcelona	36	23	6	7	85	40	52
Real Madrid	36	19	7	10	60	45	45
Real Zaragoza	36	17	8	11	64	46	42
Athletic Bilbao	36	15	10	11	58	45	40
Sevilla	36	14	12	10	52	37	40
Valencia	36	13	11	12	50	49	37
Oviedo	36	12	12	12	42	47	36
Racing Santander	36	14	8	14	42	40	36
Sporting Gijon	36	15	5	16	42	51	35
Tenerife	36	14	6	16	47	54	34
Albacete	36	10	14	12	48	55	34
Real Sociedad	36	12	10	14	38	46	34
Atletico Madrid	36	11	9	16	51	54	31
Logrones	36	8	15	13	45	55	31
Celta Vigo	36	10	10	16	37	51	30
Rayo Vallecano	36	9	12	15	40	56	30
Real Valladolid	36	8	13	15	27	46	29
Lleida	36	7	13	16	28	45	27
Osasuna	36	7	10	19	31	59	24

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

WEEKEND

LA CORUNA 4 (Bebeto 7, 55, Donato 17, Pedro Riesco 78)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Ciganda 48). **Att:** 22,000.

BARCELONA 2 (R. Koeman 11, Romario 67)
TENERIFE 1 (Dertycia 49). **Att:** 85,000.

REAL MADRID 3 (Dubovsky 35, Prosinecki 47, Butragueno 85)
VALENCIA 2 (Mendieta 7, Alvaro 55). **Att:** 80,000.

REAL ZARAGOZA 2 (Aguado 36, Pardeza 85)
RACING SANTANDER 0. **Att:** 15,000.

SEVILLA 4 (Suker 4 pen, 72, 86, Moya 1)
LOGRONES 1 (Poyatos 16). **Att:** 20,000.

ALBACETE 2 (Geli 45, Dos Santos 64)
LLEIDA 1 (Virgilio 49). **Att:** 12,000.

SPORTING GIJON 2 (Sierra 55, Castano 73)
CELTA 1 (Gudelj 48). **Att:** 15,750.

REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Kodro 42 pen)
RAYO VALLECANO 1 (Calderon 64). **Att:** 22,000.

VALLADOLID 0
REAL OVIEDO 0. **Att:** 16,000.

OSASUNA 0
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Soler 56). **Att:** 25,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

WEEKEND

REAL OVIEDO 2 (Carlos 12, Jankovic 55)
LA CORUNA 5 (Nando 27, 47, Bebeto 27, 75, Claudio 83). **Att:** 19,000.

LLEIDA 1 (Urbano 6)
BARCELONA 2 (Ivan 77, Amor 84). **Att:** 13,000.

CELTA 3 (Ratkovic 48, Andrijasevic 59, Gudelj 69)
REAL MADRID 2 (Butragueno 83 pen, Hierro 86). **Att:** 24,000.

TENERIFE 5 (Chano 9, Aguilera 17, Latorre 70, Dertycia 90, 92)
REAL ZARAGOZA 3 (Gay 21, Poyet 45, Aragon 83 pen). **Att:** 20,000.

ATHLETIC BILBAO 7 (Guerrero 2, 47, 80, 87 pen, Larrazabal 4, Ciganda 37, 41)
SPORTING GIJON 0. **Att:** 25,000.

VALENCIA 1 (Fernando 61)
SEVILLA 1 (Suker 52). **Att:** 30,000.

ATLETICO MADRID 2 (Juantio 53, Pirri 92)
VALLADOLID 0. At: 25,000.

RACING SANTANDER 3 (Chili 10, 87, Merino 75)
OSASUNA 1 (Urban 45). **Att:** 13,000.

LOGRONES 2 (Poyatos 6, Markovic 25)
REAL SOCIEDAD 0. **Att:** 8,000.

RAYO VALLECANO 0
ALBACETE 0. **Att:** 10,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MIDWEEK

LA CORUNA 2 (Donato 44, Nando 74)
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Kosecki 60). **Att:** 24,000.

BARCELONA 1 (Ivan 83)
RAYO VALLECANO 0. **Att:** 75,000.

REAL MADRID 2 (Prosinecki 9, Michel 63 pen)
SPORTING GIJON 2 (Saric 16, Abelardo 76). **Att:** 45,000.

REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Gay 8)
LLEIDA 1 (Milinkovic 48). **Att:** 18,000.

SEVILLA 4 (Moya 63, 82, Suker 72 pen, 84)
CELTA 1 (Losada 90). **Att:** 30,000.

REAL OVIEDO 3 (Carlos 18 pen, 53, Sietes 60)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 0. **Att:** 15,900.

ALBACETE 2 (Dos Santos 23, Menendez 43)
LOGRONES 2 (Markovic 29, Romero 55). **Att:** 9,000.

VALLADOLID 0
RACING SANTANDER 3 (Popov 17, 22, 42). **Att:** 16,000.

REAL SOCIEDAD 0
VALENCIA 0. **Att:** 15,000.

WEEKEND

RACING SANTANDER 0
LA CORUNA 1 (Donato 53 pen). **Att:** 18,000.

LOGRONES 0
BARCELONA 0. **Att:** 16,000.

ATHLETIC BILBAO 2 (Larrazabal 6 pen, Ciganda 22)
REAL MADRID 1 (Michel 9 pen). **Att:** 45,000.

RAYO VALLECANO 1 (Urzaiz 46)
REAL ZARAGOZA 2 (Nayim 51, Poyet 79). **Att:** 12,000.

SPORTING GIJON 1 (Prieto 39)
SEVILLA 0. **Att:** 10,300.

VALENCIA 4 (Fernando 15, 30, 84, Mijatovic 70 pen)
ALBACETE 0. **Att:** 40,000.

TENERIFE 0
VALLADOLID 2 (Ivan 37, Alberto 52). **Att:** 22,000.

ATLETICO MADRID 0
REAL OVIEDO 3 (Jankovic 36, Carlos 66, Sietes 90). **Att:** 25,000.

CELTA VIGO 3 (Gudelj 36, 81 pen, Alejo 63)
REAL SOCIEDAD 2 (Fuentes 58, Imanol 70). **Att:** 25,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17

WEEKEND

LA CORUNA 2 (Claudio 68, 76)
TENERIFE 0. **Att:** 17,000.

BARCELONA 3 (Beguiristain 7, 27, Stoichkov 84)
VALENCIA 1 (Tomas 71). **Att:** 70,000.

SEVILLA 0
REAL MADRID 1 (Zamorano 73). **Att:** 50,000.

REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Franco 8)
LOGRONES 1 (Poyatos 26). **Att:** 15,000.

ATLETICO MADRID 4 (Luis Garcia 21 pen, 26, 55 pen, Manolo 83)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 2 (Valverde 68, 85). **Att:** 37,000.

ALBACETE 0
CELTA VIGO 4 (Aguirre 29, Gudelj 45, 74, Andrijasevic 87). **Att:** 5,000.

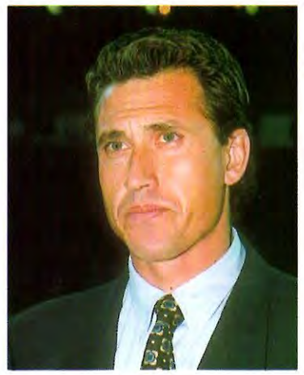
REAL OVIEDO 3 (Carlos 3, 75, Jokanovic 69)
RACING SANTANDER 0. **Att:** 16,000.

SPORTING GIJON 1 (Munoz 40)
REAL SOCIEDAD 0. **Att:** 16,000.

OSASUNA 1 (Palacios 67)
RAYO VALLECANO 1 (Onesimo 59). **Att:** 18,000.

VALLADOLID 0
LLEIDA 2 (Aguila 35, Milinkovic 90). **Att:** 25,000.

A big job for an original thinker



"TWO years ago I wasn't even a coach," Jorge Valdano reflected after his provisional acceptance of the managerial vacancy at Real Madrid.

Reservations in the Real boardroom, however, were not limited to questions about how green is my Valdano. Some directors still harbour a gut aversion to the Tenerife manager (right) who stole the 1992 and 1993 League titles from Real on the last day of both seasons.

But, barring accidents or the club's failure to recruit the right players, Valdano will start work in July at the ripe old age of 38. Come to think of it, four years ago he was narrowly failing in a bid to return from hepatitis B and subsequent retirement to reinforce an Argentinian World Cup side who badly needed his power, pace and intelligence.

Instead, he continued to write lucid articles for *El Pais*, and one of the crosses he has to bear in his managerial career is the air of suspicion which surrounds anybody capable of producing poetry in a footballing world where most people struggle to produce prose.

Indeed, Valdano's love for the game is based on the conviction that football is a condensation of the political, social and personal tensions generated by life itself. He has clear ideas about how football should be played, how it should be organised and how a dressing room should be man-managed.

After two successful years in Tenerife — UEFA Cup qualification included — his ideas will be sternly tested at a club directly in need of major reform on the pitch and off.

His brief, evidently, is to wrest supremacy back from Johan Cruyff's Barcelona.

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FRANCE

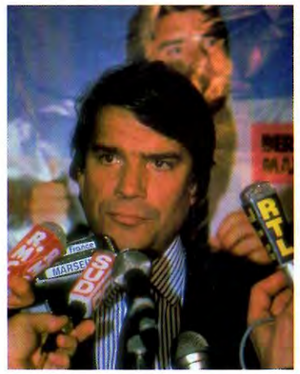
BY ANDRE DUCLOS

Cast out!

Marseille pay a huge fixing fee

BERNARD TAPIE may not be president of Marseille for much longer. Although he has appealed against the French Football Federation's decision to revoke his licence to act in any official capacity, the ruling is likely to stand.

Multi-millionaire Tapie (below) insists that "nobody can stop me from financing or supporting the club" — but his tempestuous and highly-successful reign seems



unlikely to extent into a ninth year. He is more likely to concentrate on his political career.

His money helped the club to win the championship five years running, but a heavy price has been, is being and will be paid as a result of the bribery scandal.

After lengthy deliberations, the FFF have now decided that Marseille, guilty of trying to "fix" a match with Valenciennes in May last year, should be relegated at the end of this season.

The good news is that the club will be allowed to play in Europe in 1994-95 if, as seems certain, they qualify. Their league title has gone to Paris St Germain, but they have excellent prospects of a UEFA Cup place and/or one in the Cup-winners Cup.

Marseille were banned from the current Champions Cup, although they were the holders. Their replacement — by Monaco, who reached the semi-final — plus their inability to compete in World Club Cup and European Supercup matches, cost them an estimated £10 million.

Tapie is not the only individual to suffer. Former director Jean-Pierre Bernes has been banned from holding a position in French football for life, and the three players involved — Christophe Robert. Jean-Jacques Eydelie and Jorge Burruchaga — will not be allowed to play anywhere until July 1996.

The decision effectively ends Burruchaga's career at 34, after two appearances in World Cup Finals with Argentina.

These sanctions could not have come at a worse time.

In addition to debts of several millions of pounds, the club face an investigation into possible irregularities in transfer deals. Several plays soon will be out of contract, and both Didier Deschamps and Basile Boli seem likely to be moving to Italy. Morale remains surprisingly high, with vice-president Jean Louis Lovreau saying defiantly: "I guarantee that Marseille will be a European team playing in the Second Division, not a Second Division team playing in Europe.

"Our aim now must be to regain our place among the elite and add more European trophies before our centenary five years from now."

International defender Eric Di Meco, a one-club man throughout his career, intends to stay, and Franck Sauzee wants to return after a disastrous season in Italy, with Atalanta.

The fans are split between anger — they see a Parisian plot against their city — and sadness. Nearly 30,000 turned out to give the team a standing ovation before the recent home game with Lyon, and the players responded with a resounding 3-0 win.

The forced demotion of Marseille, the only French club ever to win a European title, will be good news for the Second Division but bad news for the First. They are thought to generate around a third of the total receipts.

There is at least one other victim of the squalid Marseille affair: Boro Primorac, Valenciennes manager at the time of the fix. He told the truth about the situation . . . and has been unemployed ever since.

"Tapie and Bernes?" he says. "I cannot forgive them for what they have done."

And why should he?

RESULTS

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Paris SG	36	22	11	3	48	20	55
Marseille	36	18	12	6	53	31	48
Bordeaux	36	18	8	10	49	31	48
Auxerre	36	17	9	10	51	27	43
Nantes	36	16	11	9	44	30	43
Cannes	36	15	11	10	48	42	41
Montpellier	36	14	13	9	38	34	41
Lens	36	13	13	10	45	33	39
Monaco	36	13	12	11	50	35	38
Lyon	36	15	8	13	34	38	38
Saint-Etienne	36	12	12	12	37	34	36
Metz	36	11	12	13	33	33	34
Strasbourg	36	10	14	12	42	44	34
Sochaux	36	10	14	12	42	44	34
Caen	36	12	7	17	26	49	31
Lille	36	8	14	14	38	49	30
Le Havre	36	7	14	15	27	44	28
Martigues	36	5	15	16	35	56	25
Toulouse	36	4	14	18	24	57	22
Angers	36	3	13	20	33	59	19

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

WEEKEND

PARIS SG 1 (Fournier 15)
METZ 0. **Att:** 26,979.

MARSEILLE 1 (Anderson 36 pen)
MONTPELLIER 1 (Sanchez 23). **Att:** 25,000.

MONACO 0
AUXERRE 1 (C. Martins (44). **Att:** 2,500.

NANTES 2 (Pedros 15, Loko 89)
SOCHAUX 0. **Att:** 11,678.

BORDEAUX 3 (Dugarry 54, Vercruysse 65, Lizarazu 85)
CAEN 0. **Att:** 15,000.

CANNES 3 (Meyrieu 6 og, Priou 21, Madar 55)
LENS 1 (Meyrieu 33). **Att:** 4,500.

LE HAVRE 0
LYON 1 (S. Roche 15). **Att:** 5,932.

ST ETIENNE 2 (E. Mendy 38, Wohlfarth 66)
ANGERS 0. **Att:** 14,286.

LILLE 1 (Soppo-Din 71 og)
STRASBOURG 1 (Keller 67). **Att:** 4,948.

TOULOUSE 2 (Ferrer 42, Pavon 73)
MARTIGUES 2 (Tholot 34, Bouquet 40). **Att:** 5,300.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

WEEKEND

PARIS SG 2 (Weah 30, Guerin 70)
CANNES 1 (Madar 8). **Att:** 28,957.

SOCHAUX 1 (Piton 31)
MARSEILLE 1 (Voller 29). **Att:** 7,845.

AUXERRE 3 (Baticle 30, Verlaat 34 pen, Cocard 72)
NANTES 1 (J-M Ferri 15). **Att:** 10,000.

ANGERS 1 (Discolle 80)
BORDEAUX 3 (Santos 5, Dugarry 10, Croci 70). **Att:** 5,100.

MONTPELLIER 1 (Asanovic 33)
LILLE 3 (Andersson 3, 25 pen, Etame 56). **Att:** 7,115.

LYON 1 (Debbah 27)
TOULOUSE 0. **Att:** 8,000.

MARTIGUES 1 (Collot 63)
MONACO 3 (Scifo 2, Djorkaeff 49, Klinsmann 74). **Att:** 4,500.

LENS 5 (R. Boli 22, 30, 86, Eloi 69, Dehu 85)
LE HAVRE 1 (Meszoly 45). **Att:** 13,711.

METZ 0
ST ETIENNE 1 (Wohlfarth 64). **Att:** 8,257.

CAEN 3 (Huysman 8, Deddebant 48 pen, Nouma 70)
STRASBOURG 1 (Hughes 9). **Att:** 15,482.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MIDWEEK

NANTES 3 (Loko 20, Pedros 67, Ouedec 70)
PARIS SG 0. **Att:** 20,482.

MARSEILLE 2 (Voller 13, Stojkovic 19)
ANGERS 1 (Galtier 21 pen). **Att:** 12,00.

BORDEAUX 4 (Zidane 29, Paille 31, 74, Lizarazu 50 pen)
SOCHAUX 1 (Prat 65). **Att:** 10,000.

CANNES 2 (Ferhaoui 60, Madar 82)
AUXERRE 1 (Verlaat 88). **Att:** 6,000.

STRASBOURG 0
MONTPELLIER 1 (Sanchez 80). **Att:** 10,022.

MONACO 0
LENS 0. **Att:** 4,000.

ST ETIENNE 3 (Despeyroux 65, E. Mendy 80, 88)
LYON 0. **Att:** 16,588.

LILLE 3 (Garcia 39, 46, K. Andersson 83)
CAEN 1 (Nouma 32). **Att:** 4,962.

TOULOUSE 2 (Lada 14, Hernandez 86)
METZ 2 (Zitelli 34, 36). **Att:**4,808.

LE HAVRE 2 (Bertin 58, Ba 81)
MARTIGUES 0. **Att:** 6,343.

WEEKEND

CANNES 1 (Madar 51)
LE HAVRE 0. **Att:** 5,000.

CAEN 1 (Mostovoi 39)
MARSEILLE 0. **Att:** 19,611.

MARTIGUES 1 (Collot 19 pen)
NANTES 2 (N'Doram 34, Loko 55). **Att:** 4,000.

LYON 4 (Ngotty 20, 76, Gava 42, Roy 90)
BORDEAUX 2 (Senec 18, Paille 77). **Att:** 12,500.

AUXERRE 3 (Cocard 40, Vahirua 52 pen, Mahe 75)
ST ETIENNE 0. **Att:** 10,000.

METZ 1 (N'Diaye 77 pen)
MONTPELLIER 1 (C. Sanchez 53). **Att:** 8,135.

LENS 4 (Sikora 26, R. Boli 67, Omam-Biyik 71, Slater 88))
TOULOUSE 0. **Att:** 14,269.

SOCHAUX 1 (Vos 9)
STRASBOURG 3 (Hughes 45, Paillard 60, Rott 84). **Att:** 2,500.

ANGERS 1 (El Hadaoui 52 pen)
LILLE 2 (K. Andersson 55, Sibierski 75). **Att:** 2,388.

A tale of two strikers

FLY AWAY, Jurgen, don't come back Jean-Pierre! One forward leaves France, another leaves Italy . . . for Germany. All around, the French League loses.

Jurgen Klinsmann, after a season of fine goals for Monaco and Germany, leaves Monte Carlo and makes, it seems, for Genoa. More precisely, for Sampdoria.

Jean-Pierre Papin, meanwhile, thoroughly disillusioned in Milan, has decided to try his luck in Germany, with Bayern Munich. Where, for better or for worse, he will be managed by another Italian: Giovanni Trapattoni.

Klinsmann does not mince his words, as we well know. Preparing for the semi-final match versus Milan, he deplored the slow service he had been getting with Monaco. Playing alone up front for Germany is fine, he said, because the ball came through quickly. Playing for Monaco was not the same, because he did not get the ball soon enough.

How, now, will Papin get on in Germany? This is a substantial change of scene for the 30-year-old striker who previously played in Belgium, France and Italy. Bayern must have derived some consolation from the news of his move after crashing that weekend, 4-0 at Kaiserslautern. Certainly Papin looks like a real bargain. Milan have dropped a couple of million pounds on him.

Paris Saint Germain's elimination by Arsenal in the Cup-winners Cup semi-final left some bitterness. Not least with Bernard Lama, whose failure to go out to Dixon's cross enabled Campbell to head that decisive early goal.

Lama, though, had a point when he deplored the lack of strikers in a PSG team who wantonly and wilfully left out George Weah and preferred the Brazilian Rai.

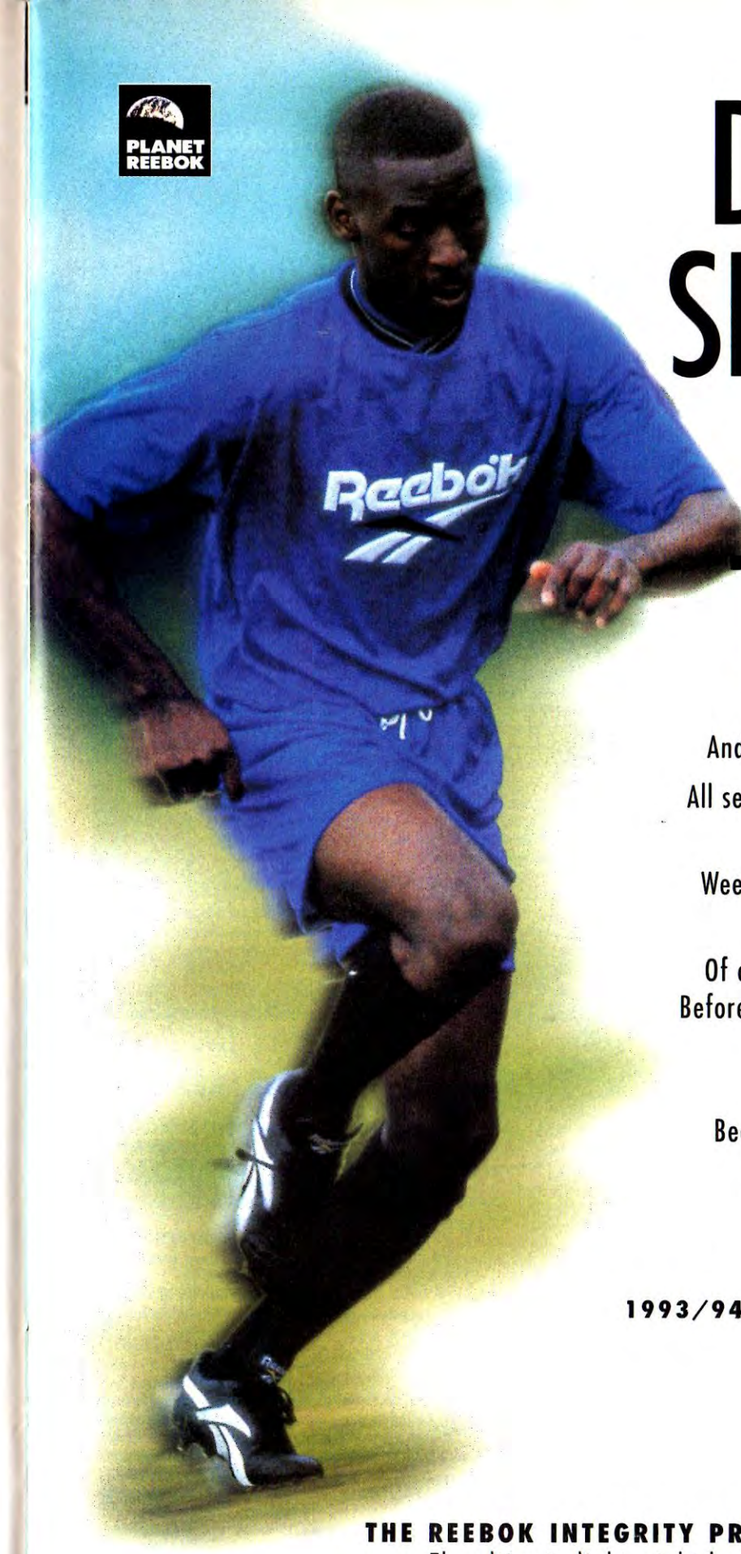
He dropped deeper and deeper as the game went on, and he has never, in any case, been a real centre-forward.

"All the attackers were on the bench," said Lama, back in Paris. "There were three of them sitting there, against Arsenal. (Weah, Gravelaine, who came on late, and Calderaro). You have to be realistic. If you don't score, you get eliminated."

Fair enough. All those men cost money, and Gravelaine, who had such a fine season with Caen in 1992-93, got on the field far too late to make any difference. Except to Nigel Winterburn, whose ankle felt his boot.

True, Arsenal manager George Graham said that he did not think Weah would have made much difference, because he had been well held in Paris by Bould and Adams. But one might beg to differ.

Three good chances were thrown away. How David Ginola missed that sitter in the second half, all alone in front of goal, probably even he does not know.



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HOLLAND

Feyenoord, a boy and a villa

WHEN young players were snapped up by clubs they usually lived in digs with a landlady. Times have changed.

What better example than a young player Feyenoord were interested in? Coach Geert Meijer said it all: "He was a good player, but he's under contract to Cor Coster. He wanted a villa with three bedrooms, and more of that sort of thing. That we do not give to young players."

So the lad could wave goodbye to the club he so wanted to join.

The point is that Iceland youth international Eidur Gudjohnson is the 15-year-old son of Arnor Gudjohnson, who played for Lokeren, Anderlecht and Bordeaux.

And Cor Coster is the agent who happens to be Johan Cruyff's father-in-law.

For different reasons, of course, four other foreign players who had been on trial in Rotterdam were sent home — Mandla Zwane (South Africa), Etienne Musonda (Zaire), Ernest Mtawali (Zambia) and Jazonderd Paz (Argentina).

As Meijer says: "Everything is possible. Maybe some players want to join us. But we must first see whether they can produce the sort of football we want, or, perhaps more important, whether they can be an important part of our squad."

There is better news for Feyenoord. Jozsef Kiprich, their 30-year-old Hungarian international, has agreed to stay for at least one more season.

Thanks to injuries and sickness, Kiprich has played in too few games this season, although he was one of the key players when Feyenoord won the Dutch League title last time.

Pim Doesburg, the ex-international goalkeeper, has signed a new contract

that keeps him with Feyenoord as "keeper coach" for two more years. Doesburg also is "keeper coach" for the Dutch FA.

There will be something of a reunion at Groningen next season. Hans Westerhof, their ex-coach, who followed Bobby Robson as chief coach to PSV, has agreed to return to Groningen.

Now Erwin Koeman, the 32-year-old oldest of the brothers, has signed a four-year contract with the club. He could have earned more elsewhere, but Groningen is where he began his professional career as a 17-year-old, and his father, Martin Koeman, is general manager there.

Erwin (above) says: "PSV and Mechelen also offered me a place on the coaching staff, but, and this is the big but, neither club wanted me to stay as a player for more than one year. Groningen thought otherwise.

"They wanted me to carry on playing for two more years. Then I could concentrate on coaching."

ERIC NICHOLLS

PORTUGAL

Three off as Sporting dreams crash

THREE no-so-Sporting players were sent off as their team crashed 2-0 away to outgoing Portuguese champions FC Porto in possibly the decisive match of the championship.

With six games left to play, Sporting's defeat left Lisbon rivals Benfica two points clear at the top with 46 points.

Bobby Robson's Porto were third with 40 points and a match in hand but, realistically, face a return to the UEFA Cup next season after two heady years in the Champions League.

Carlos Valente was the referee who showed the three red cards — and eight yellow.

Polish striker Andrzej Juskowiak was the first to get his marching orders, in the 35th minute, after he fouled Porto defender Fernando Couto.

Serbian defender Budomir Vujacic followed in the 61st minute after fouling Bulgarian striker Emil Kostadinov. Then midfielder Emilio Peixe (above) was sent off two minutes later, for a second bookable offence, leaving Sporting with only eight men.

Serbian winger Lubomir Drulovic scored Porto's first goal, seven minutes into the second half, after dispossessing Dutch defender Stan Valckx. Substitute striker Alves Vinha added the second three minutes from time.

Sporting had two players sent off in March during a 0-0 draw with Uniao Madeira.

ALBERTO DA SILVA

FINLAND

THE Finland FA are worried about the lack of an up-to-date national stadium. The Olympic Stadium in Helsinki, recently redeveloped to host the European Athletics Championships next August, does not meet the strict requirements of the international governing body, and the pitch is too narrow for international matches.

The secretary of the FA, Pertti Alaja, has threatened to turn to the Swedish FA to ask for permission to stage Finland's future matches at Stockholm's Rasunda.

Meanwhile, national coach Tommy Lindholm promises further surprises in his team selections. He has shelved three of Finland's foreign-based players — Laukkanen, Myyry and Paatelainen — but claims that has been for the best.

"Just look at Norway," he says. "When Egil Olsen took over, they had five international stars. Olsen kicked out four of them, preserving only Bratseth. They have not done badly since, have they?"

PENTTI HIETANEN

SWEDEN

Boom-boom Blomqvist

JESPER BLOMQVIST, a 20-year-old midfielder from League leaders IFK Gothenburg, is the talk of Swedish football.

He scored four times in the first two matches of the season, to earn a place in Tommy Svensson's national squad to face Wales.

Blomqvist (right), who made his full international debut in a recent 0-0 draw with Colombia, has been called "the new Brolin" because of his meteoric

rise. Like Brolin, he hails from northern Sweden, from a little town called Tavelsjo, but does not see himself in the same mould. "I'm not a natural goal-getter, more a midfield operator and a creator of chances," he says. "I usually get four or five goals per season."

Malmo midfielder Jens Fjellstrom hit a splendid hat-trick at Oster — the League leaders — with Svensson watching. Fjellstrom, 27, was signed from Djurgarden a year ago and is rated by many as potentially one of Sweden's best midfield schemers.

Svensson's biggest worry concerns Jan Eriksson, who has been injured and cannot get into the Kaiserslautern team.

If a Swedish club could hire him for a month, he would get some much-needed match practice.

PENTTI HIETANEN

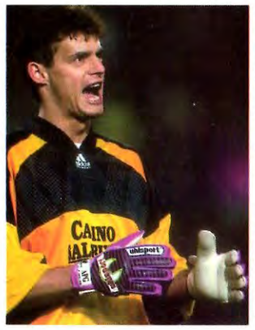
AUSTRIA

Salzburg shocks start storm

THERE is no let-up in the storm of printed, verbal and visual euphoria over the exploits of Austria Salzburg, the country's first UEFA Cup finalists.

Six months ago the provincials faced bankruptcy, owing over £2million. Their amazing European run, with the last three "home" ties all being staged in Vienna, attracted a total of nearly 150,000 spectators and effectively wiped off all their debts.

In all of their last six matches the club were unable to field a full-strength side, injury and suspensions taking their toll. Now, however, their top players are in demand all over Europe. Otto Konrad (left), was the hero of the tie against Eintracht Frankfurt — he saved two penalties and converted the winning kick — and seems sure to move to Germany, either to Karlsruhe or VfB Stuttgart. Promotion was swift for other players, seven of whom were picked in the national squad for the match against Scotland, who won 2-1 in Vienna.



The only sour note was struck by UEFA, who upset the "Mozart" club by fining them £32,000 because their fans misbehaved.

Title-holders Austria Vienna took advantage of Salzburg's involvement in international competition and took over at the top, but Salzburg regained first place with a game in hand.

Rapid Vienna still are in dire financial trouble and have been threatened with a winding-up order after accumulating debts beyond the amount allowed by the FA.

There was also a shock for bottom-of-the-table Wiener Sportklub. As if they did not have enough problems, their president, Herbert Rosenauer, was arrested on charges of fraud involving a chain-letter gambling game.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

SWITZERLAND

Not all joy for Barberis

EVERYTHING points to a title duel between the record "Meisters", Grasshopper, and modest Sion.

Surprisingly, provincial Sion have the stronger squad, and will send almost as many players to the World Cup as the rest put together.

Sion's charismatic team manager, Umberto Barberis (right), does not see that as an advantage.

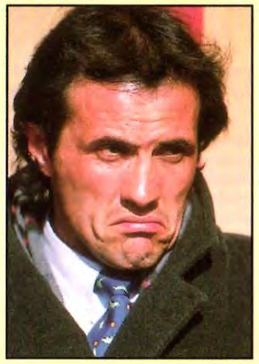
"The quarrel over World Cup bonuses and recognition during the winter break has upset several of my players," he says.

"We needed some weeks before they all calmed down and regained their normal form."

Barberis, who is of Italian origin, grew up in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, where he played top-class football and managed Lausanne for six years.

So far he has won nothing, and says. "We were always forced to sell our best players. I had to build a new team every year."

He is also critical about the problems in this country. "As soon as the club win the championship the level of expectations rises enormously. The fans demand



more success, while the players want more money."

The much-debated system of three points for a win, so successful in England since its introduction in 1981-82, has not caught the imagination of Swiss legislators.

General opinion among the managers is that the increase has not made any difference to the placings of the teams, or encouraged attacking football.

At the 1990 World Cup the same 16 teams would have reached the second round, and FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter comments: "It is dependent on managers whether the teams play offensive or defensive football, but anything new is worth trying before making a judgment."

ARTHUR ROTMIL

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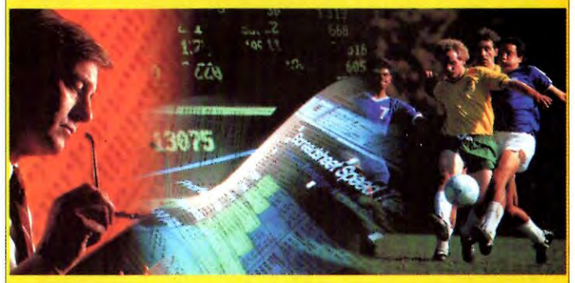

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TURKEY

Cash crisis hits transfer market

THE supply of foreign players in Turkey has been affected by an economic crisis afflicting the country.

Changes in the money markets mean that the Turkish lire is now worth less than half its former value when changed for the American dollar — the currency used to fund most of the transfer deals.

So costly imports are beyond the reach of most clubs. Even the big four — Galatasaray, Fenerbahce, Besiktas and Trabzonspor — are having to go carefully in the market, and may consider selling more home-based players to foreign clubs.

One deal pending is that of Gala striker Hakan Sukur, who has attracted Dutch club PSV. A fee of $1.5 million has been mentioned, and developments are awaited while Sukur recovers fully from a broken nose.

Besiktas managed one big deal before the devaluation, with German manager Christoph Daum signing his compatriot, international goalkeeper Raimond Aumann (below), from Bayern Munich. Toni Schumacher, who played for Besiktas before retiring and returning to Germany.

Galatasaray officials seem to be unconvinced about the merits of another German, coach Rainer Holmann, but his team still struggled on so well that a second successive League-and-Cup double looked likely.

They lead the title chase by a point with only one games to go, and reached the Cup Final as well, but lost 3-2 to Besiktas, who thus gave Daum a trophy after only half a season.

Gala led twice, but their team, without four regulars, eventually were beaten by a late goal by substitute Alpay.

Fenerbahce, in second place, are heavily in debt — despite taking £1.5 million from their first 10 home games — and need a new president now that Guven Sazak has resigned through ill health.

Uche is back after helping Nigeria to win the African Nations Cup, and Aykut has scored his 100th League goal.

So all depends on the last 90 minutes . . . recalling the sensations of last season, when Galatasaray took the title by winning 8-0 away.

Trabzonspor and Besiktas are third and fourth, but out of the race.

HASAN CEMALI

ISRAEL

Haifa creep further ahead

ISRAELI supporters probably will have to wait until the season's final whistle on June 4 to find out the 1993-94 champions.

With six rounds to go, only two point separated Maccabbi Haifa and Maccabbi Tel Aviv.

Haifa increased their lead from one in round 32, in somewhat surprising circumstances.

They were tipped to beat mid-table Maccabi Netanya, despite having to stage the match in Jaffa following a disciplinary sanction. The League leaders stumbled, managed only a 1-1 draw . . . and greeted with relief the news that Tel Aviv had lost 3-2 at home to lowly Hapoel Holon.

The following week brought another tale of the unexpected, with both Haifa and Tel Aviv winning on the same pitch, in dramatic fashion.

Tel Aviv, having gone behind to Maccabbi Netanya, drew level in the first half, missed a penalty in the second, then won with Avi Mini's last-minute header.

This victory sent them to the top for the next 90 minutes — until Haifa beat Hapoel Tel Aviv 3-2, Eyal Berkovich's winner coming three minutes from time.

Finally, at least one question mark hovering around the Haifa-Tel Aviv duel was removed. Tel Aviv knocked Haifa out of the Cup, 2-1, and progressed to the quarter-finals.

AVI MELLER

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

A triumph for Ray of the Rovers

SHAMROCK ROVERS won the League of Ireland Premier Division title for the first time since 1987 — their 15th in all — and their first trophy since leaving Glenmalure Park in 1988.

Success was a personal triumph for manager Ray Treacy who persevered with his "total football" approach even through the team only just stayed up last season.

Treacy had returned to his native Dublin in 1977 after a long career in England, and helped Rovers to win the FAI Cup in 1978. When his playing career was over, he had spells in charge of Drogheda United and Home Farm, but was concentrating on his travel agency business when approached to take over from Noel King in January 1992.

He put his championship-winning team together for the modest sum of £12,000. Now his biggest headache will be to keep his star players.

Striker Stephen Geoghegan, who hit 23 League goals, is almost certain to be lured away, and midfielder Alan Byrne and right-back Willie Burke also are highly rated.

Rovers will be staying at the Royal Dublin Society Grounds for the immediate future. When Glenmalure Park, their former home ground, was sold, they had temporary stops at Tolka Park and Dalymount Park before moving to the showjumping arena in Ballsbridge, near their roots in Ringsend.

They are hoping to negotiate a long-term deal with the owners, and floodlights will be installed if they do.

Rovers were the first League of Ireland club to play in the European Cup, in 1957, but this time round they will be the first champions to play in the UEFA Cup.

The poor record of League of Ireland clubs in Europe in recent years has meant demotion. Cork City will be the other UEFA Cup representatives.

League treasurer Des Casey has suggested a mini-tournament in July to help League of Ireland clubs prepare for the August start to the European competitions. He wants a tournament between European representatives from the Republic, Northern Ireland and Wales, to be played in July.

Sligo Rovers, champions of the First Division, and Athlone Town go up, with Limerick and Drogheda United dropping down.

Cobh Ramblers survived a promotion-relegation play-off with Finn Harps, the third team in the First Division, to retain their Premier Division status.

The 1993-94 season will be remembered as the one when League of Ireland clubs finally lit up. And what a change the floodlights have made!

SEAN CREEDON

CYPRUS

Bribery row on the run-in

THE TITLE race and the relegation battle are still wide open, but these are not the front-page stories in the local media.

Once again the emphasis is on the accusations by Anorthosis officials that Apollon, currently two points clear at the top, had tried to bribe their opponents in a crucial away match. Police and the FA are investigating the accusations, and between 10 and 15 people will be questioned.

Rumours also are going around concerning the relegation zone. Three teams will go down to the Second Division and only one will come up, so that the League next season will be played with 12 teams in three rounds.

Anorthosis at one stage were seven points ahead. This was cut to one point, then they lost for the first time, against Apollon, who moved two points ahead with only one game left.

At this stage Anorthosis made their allegation, and the official outcome is awaited.

LAKIS AVRAAMIDES

MALTA

Hibs lose their touch but stay ahead

"THE SIDE did well. We saw positive things. But we must learn to be lucid in times of crisis. We have to be able to handle pressure from our opponents."

These were the comments of Malta's national coach, Pietro Ghedin, after his team had lost 2-1 to a full-strength Slovakia side.

With Carmel Busuttil out through injury, Ghedin drafted in Joe "Spider" Zarb as a second-half sub, but he struggled to find his usual form in front of goal.

"Zarb is a great scorer, but we must use the flanks to create opportunities," said Ghedin. His main priority is to play a friendly international each month in preparation for the forthcoming European Championship qualifying campaign — Azerbaijan will be Malta's first test.

The domestic title issue is heading towards a dramatic finale now that Hibernians seem to have lost their magic touch. After easy wins against Mqabba and Birkirkara, 5-0 and 6-2 respectively, Brian Talbot's men failed to capitalise on the 0-0 draw between Valletta and Floriana, and were then surprisingly held to a 2-2 draw by relegation-haunted Zurrieq.

One point still separates Hibernians from Floriana, whose 2-0 win over Birkirkara was followed by an identical victory over Zurrieq.

National goalkeeper David Cluett has conceded only three goals so far this term — a remarkable feat.

Floriana will be relying on his security in the final clashes which will determine the eventual winner. Hamrun v Valletta will be followed by Hibernians v Floriana and finally Valletta v Hibernians.

Sliema Wanderers seem to have found fresh life under new player-coach Martin Gregory, who took over from Marcel Scicluna after the 2-1 defeat by Valletta.

But Sliema are involved in the relegation battle with four other clubs — excluding Mqabba, already relegated.

Zarb (Valletta) and Karl Zacchau (Hibernians) lead the scorers with 14.

DOMENICO AQUILINA

GREECE

AEK miss a double, on penalties

FOR the past couple of years you would have thought that basketball was the top sport in Greece.

But the success of the national team, on their way to their first World Cup finals, and the League Cup showdown at the Olympic Stadium has rejuvenated interest.

Some 65,000 spectators saw the final, one of the most exciting matches for years. Panathinaikos took the title on penalties after the teams had drawn 2-2 after regulation time and 3-3 after extra time.

AEK, trying for the double after winning the League title for the third consecutive year, came from 2-0 behind to take the lead, only for Panathinaikos to level.

AEK coach Dusan Bayevic said: "This was a good advertisement for soccer. Panathinaikos played well in the first half, we played well in the second half. The team showed their worth by playing offensive soccer, and the luckiest team won."

The Panathinaikos coach, Juan Ramon Rotsa, said the performance by the teams "brought glory back to soccer in Greece and was an answer to those who say the national team players are saving their strength for the World Cup."

AEK ended the League season with 79 points, seven ahead of Panathinaikos. Olympiakos were third on 68, and Aris Salonika fourth with 63.

LOU ECONOMOPOULOS

LIECHTENSTEIN & LUXEMBOURG

Coach keeps cheerful

THE European Championship qualifying stages began with a 4-1 defeat against Northern Ireland, but Liechtenstein's German coach, Dietrich Weise, still applauded.

His players managed to convince Weise that there is something worth working for, and he said: "The overall performance was very encouraging. There are some good players here and if they have the right approach and attitude they could well be good enough for the Swiss Premier League or the Bundesliga."

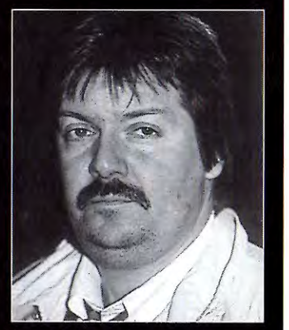
Mario Frick, the 19-year-old striker, has had a loan spell with Grasshopper of Zurich, and Daniel Hasler, also 19, is attracting leading Austrian sides.

Weise certainly knows his football, having coached teams such as Kaiserslautern, Eintracht Frankfurt, Fortuna Dusseldorf and Koln during a long and successful career.

In Germany he is known as "The Football Professor" — but he has a giant task in coaching the Liechtenstein squad.

Weise and co-trainer Erich Burzle are hoping to stage an upset somewhere along the line.

Luc looks likely



SCORING problems continue to be the main problem for national coach Paul Philipp (right).

With Roby Langers coming to the end of his career, Luxembourg will struggle to find an answer. Patrick Morrucutti will now head the front line, with Vito Marchonie and Stephano Fanelli.

Another captain may be needed, too. Carlos Weis is approaching his 37th birthday and cannot expect to win more caps.

Luc Holtz, only 25 and a key player for Avenir Beggen this season, may be the man to take over.

Avenir Beggen have taken a three and a half point lead from Grevenmacher and look certain for the title with only four games remaining. The defending champions thrashed Jeunesse 4-2 in Esch/Alzette.

Beggen also look set to win the Cup for the second season running. Grevenmacher went from bad to worse by losing 1-0 to bottom club Aris, while Union look set for second or third place after beating Dudelange 2-0.

In Group A, Wiltz have won six out of six and are all but certain of promotion, with Spora looking good for second place. Group B is a great deal closer, with all the first five still in the race.

TIM BRICE

ICELAND

Gudmundsson, a true star

ALBERT GUDMUNDSSON, footballer, politician and diplomat, has died at the age of 71.

Gudmundson was perhaps the most gifted player ever produced by Iceland. He played for Valur Reykjavik from 1941-45, and had brief spells as an amateur with Rangers in Scotland and with Arsenal in England before turning professional with French club Nancy.

He then spent some time with Milan before returning to France, playing for Racing Club of Paris and later for Nice.

On his return to Iceland he was president of the Football Association for three years, before becoming a Member of Parliament and a Government Minister.

In 1980 he stood as a candidate for the country's presidency, but was beaten at the poll by Mrs Virgis Finnsbogdottir.

Gudmundsson then became his country's ambassador to France, but recently retired.

He leaves a widow and three children, one of whom has following his father by becoming an MP.

BJORN HRAFNSSON

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AD 321

CZECH REPUBLIC

BOB VAUGHAN was in Prague for a busy weekend, seeing Viktoria Zizkov fighting relegation, Slavia seeking form to clinch a UEFA Cup place, and declining Dukla against the Moravians from FC Boby Brno

A sad sight as Dukla decline

JUST a dozen cars were parked at the foot of hilly Na Julisce, leading to the Dukla ground, where only 682 people assembled to see if the Yellow and Reds could manage their first victory of the season.

They could not, though it long looked as if the acrobatic Postulka would preserve the lead Vavra had given them.

A scramble after 79 minutes enabled Wagner to equalise for FC Boby, as they are now called, and a poor game drifted to a dull end. There remains little hope that Dukla, once giants in the land, can stay in Division One

Next morning the sun gave way to a downpour as Viktoria entertained Zlin, just a long goal-kick from the main station. Cut and thrust was the name of the game as they battled to propel the ball through surface water.

A 1-0 lead was "swamped" by two Zlin scores, but in a grandstand finish Viktoria scrambled a deserved equaliser which probably ensures a second season in the top flight. Later that day, the mud at Slavia's Eden proved too thick and they could not find a way past an obdurate Drnovice, the village team sponsored by Jan Gotwald, one of the most successful entrepreneurs in the Republic.

Drnovice, promoted eight times in 12 seasons from local soccer, deserved a 0-0 draw unthinkable even three years ago.

Much is due to Gotwald, who is planning a 6,000-capacity stadium for a place where the population is less than half that figure.

He has brought in Karel Bruckner, formerly in charge at Sigma Olomouc, as coach, and he was in opposition to Jindrich Dejmal of Slavia, who needs to improve his team's shooting.

A competent Barouch in goal, ably assisted by left-sided defender Palinek, ensured a draw for Drnovice.

Dejmal gave a rather emotional expose after the match. Everyone and everything were to blame, but not him or his players! Will he last long, as Jozef Jarabinsky's successor, with such post-match histrionics?

SLOVAKIA

'England Jo' does a favour

THE much-awaited first official home friendly took place when Croatia visited Bratislava's Tehelne Pole.

There had been some doubt about Croatian travel arrangements until almost the last minute, and they arrived without Boksic and Prosinecki, which naturally had an effect on the gate — 6,511.

Two penalties by Dubovsky (above) put the Slovaks on the road to their second win in three weeks, the first having been a 2-1 success in Malta. Coach Venglos's problems are a lack of depth if first choices are unavailable.

He also faces a lack of co-operation from Slovan coach Dusan Galis, "discovered" by Venglos nearly three decades ago and a player the Jezek-Venglos duo selected for the successful European Championship squad in Belgrade all those years back.

Perhaps Galis feels he should have been national coach, but matters are not helped when the top club's manager seemingly wants to be in conflict with his old boss.

Venglos helped to arrange a recent SFZ ceremony, with medals for those who made their mark as internationals for the ex-CSSR and CSFR teams, and recognition of the work done by coaches and journalists. A fund for former players in need is another of "England Jo's" introductions and former World Cup defender Jan Popluhar could be one of the first beneficiaries. Crippling knee trouble has limited his employment possibility, but now he is assisting the SFZ at their headquarters.

The next international event is the visit of the "A" and "Under-21" teams to play the Russians in Moscow, probably the last test before the French begin the European qualifying campaign in Bratislava in September. On the domestic front, Slovan Bratislava seem to have wrapped up their first official Slovak League title.

ROMANIA

Steaua's 16th title

STEAUA BUCHAREST retained the title, their 2-0 win at Inter Sibiu lifting their points total to 49 with two matches left, and giving them the title for the 16th time.

"U" Craoiva have continued their good run-in and Craioveanu's 21st goal of the season put them on the road to a 2-1 victory over mid-table Progresul, and a UEFA placing.

Only by dropping all four points from their two remaining games will they give a disappointing Dinamo the chance to steal the runners-up spot.

Petrolul Ploesti's 88th-minute equaliser at Timisoara maintained their challenge for a return to European competition after a long absence.

Dacia Unirea look doomed, needing to win two games to have a chance of overtaking Sportul or "Poli".

An average of only a goal a game has been the problem and they look certain to be replaced by FC Arges, who lead Seria 1 by nine points.

On the international front, Bolivia were unlikely visitors to Bucharest, and were well beaten by Dumitrescu & Co., in front of 13,000 spectators.

Romania, lacking Hagi and Belodedici, gave Stelea (above) another chance in goal and Chirita had a run in midfield, but whether coach Iordanescu learned much remains to be seen.

At least most of his squad had a chance of sampling opposition from Latin America — 16 of the Bolivians were used in a typical warm-up exercise.

BOB VAUGHAN

POLAND

Fans mar Legia challenge

MATTERS are tight in the Polish League, with only one point between the four clubs at the top, and four points between the six clubs a the bottom, with four to go down.

Gornik, despite two recent defeats in succession, clung to first place from Legia Warsaw and LKS Lodz — both had three points deducted because of last season's bribery scandal — and GKS Katowice.

Legia have not won the title since 1970, and banners reading "Warsaw is still waiting for a champion" often are seen at the stadium. Their title was taken from them last season, but they have an excellent chance this time, unless their supporters spoil things.

The ground was closed for one match last season, because of disturbances, and there was a similar outbreak in the recent game with Lech Poznan.

A linesman and a Lech player were hurt by missiles, and the FA decided that this time the stand would remain shut for one match.

Midfielder Radoslaw Michalski, who scored twice in a 3-0 defeat of Stal Mielec, said: "It was a little strange to play with the ground empty where our most devoted fans usually gather. But the most important thing is that we won."

Stal, who finished sixth last season, are now down to 14th. Stal Stalowa Wola, promoted last time, are another club in danger.

The national team beat Saudi Arabia 1-0 with a goal by debutant Tomasz Wieszczycki of LKS Lodz. The match, played in Cannes, drew a crowd of around 200 . . . admitted free.

Lech Poznan, involved in a dispute with former manager Henryk Apostel, came to terms in a court case. Apostel, now in charge of the national squad, received about £4,000.

DARIUSZ KUROWSKI

BULGARIA

Problems for Penev

MORE TROUBLE over warm-up games is not helping manager Dimitar Penev's preparations.

Life is difficult enough for him with his top players mostly abroad, some — such as Hristo Stoichkov (right) — with heavy programmes before the squad gather.

Israel were to be the opposition for the farewell game in Sofia. Now, apparently, Denmark will appear on an unspecified date in the first week of June. Whoever is organising the fixtures is keeping everyone guessing — the May 29 date in Oman was brought forward to April.

How can Penev arrange for players to be released abroad in these circumstances?

And does fielding virtually a second team have any benefit?

First Division Pirin also have trouble in plenty. They are ninth in the table after a goalless home draw with Lok GO and a 2-1 defeat at Lok Plovdiv. Since the club dismissed Milan Goranov the players have been picking the team and deciding the tactics.

Initially that worked with five points out of six, including a 3-1 success over CSKA, but not now.

Matters were made worse by a bottle-throwing incident leading to the closure of the club's ground.

At the top, Levski lead CSKA by 10 points, with Botev challenging for a UEFA placing, a further four behind.

Andonov (CSKA) and Sirakov (Levski) lead the scorers on 20 apiece.

BOB VAUGHAN

HUNGARY

Countrymen sound a warning

COUNTRY TEAM Bekescsaba scored five goals for a third successive League match, thus winning seven in a row, to lead the championship by three points (four if goal difference is added) with seven rounds remaining.

Sandor Kluczar, obtained from nearby Romania, and Janos Szarvas led the liberal goal-scoring as Vac and Kispest attempted to keep pace while Ferencvaros wobbled, creaked, and almost collapsed, losing three games in a row.

Bekescsaba's 5-1 home win over bottom team Haladas, and even the 5-2 tanning of another promoted team, Sopron, may not have registered much on football's Richter scale. But everyone has been warned that the provincials cannot be taken for granted.

At Gyor, where ETO had routed Kispest, Bekescsaba were 2-1 behind after 13 minutes but answered with an emphatic five-goal, five-star show. Will the southerners become the first non-Budapest champions since Raba ETO Gyor in 1982-83?

Vac also won in Gyor, by Antal Fule's ninth-minute goal, and, at a time when Janos Csank is thinking of pastures new, abroad, his players reassured their manager with determination and discipline against Ferencvaros, winning 3-2.

Fradi lost 1-0 in the Bozsik Stadion to Kispest-Honved, who installed a Serbian, Dimitri Davidovics, as manager. Martti Kuusela was dismissed and said: "We played seven matches in the spring and lost only one, I had good results but it was impossible to work there. I really wanted to help Hungarian football, to show them why they are behind the other countries. But it is too easy for the directors and trainers.

"Hungary must change, and accept that football has changed; it is more physical, aggressive, and not just about technique."

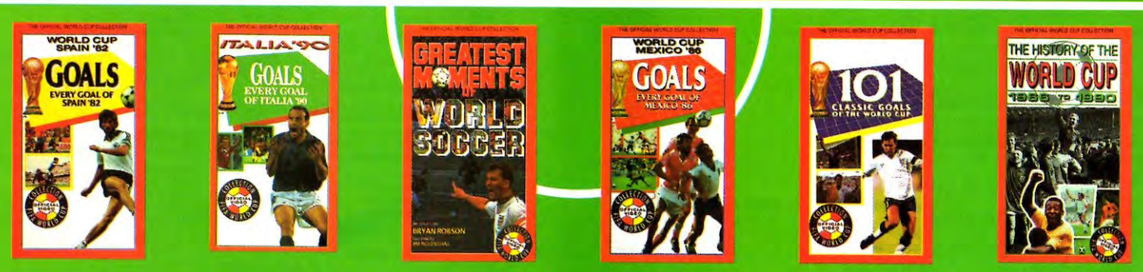
Davidovics, whose contract is until June 30, has had a much-travelled existence since leaving Belgrade's Partizan, playing for California Clippers and NEC Nijmegen, and coaching in Belgium and Dubai.

He began his new challenge by watching Kispest produce a second-half storm to defeat Debrecen 3-0 on aggregate in the quarter-finals of the Cup.

They now meet Siofok, while Ferencvaros face Vasas. Kispest had five scorers in an encouraging showing at Szekesfehervar against Parmalat, formerly Videton, who have a new name but cannot be linked in footballing terms with their relatives, Parma.

The team were going nowhere long before Gabor Hartyani, the manager, was ultimately relieved of his duties. Laszlo Kiss, previously an assistant to Kuusela at Kispest, accepted his biggest challenge yet.

BRIAN O'SULLIVAN



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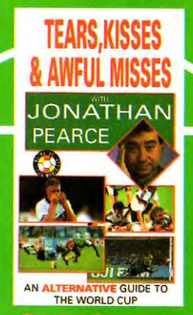

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EURO-TABLES

RUSSIA

THE ROW over the composition of Russia's squad for the World Cup — and the position of coach Pavel Sadyrin — still rumbles on, with time getting shorter every moment.

The Russian Federation have told all players who are possible choices for the trip to America that they face punishment if they fail to attend training after signing a contract. Seven of the probable squad are thought to have refused to sign, and therefore put themselves out of the World Cup.

Originally 14 players had signed a letter protesting about Sadyrin's methods, demanding larger bonuses for US '94 qualification, and demanding the return of the previous coach, Anatoli Byshovets.

Eventually a bonus of £70,000 per man was agreed IF Russia win the World Cup, with smaller sums for earlier matches, but Sadyrin stays.

Dmitri Kharin, who has helped Chelsea to reach the FA Cup Final for the first time in 24 years, is one of the players agreeing to sign the contract.

The "rebels" who have not yet signed are thought to include Andrei Kanchelskis, likely to play at Wembley for Manchester United, against Kharin.

After the team had flown to Turkey and won 1-0 in a friendly match, a German magazine caused more trouble by printing an alleged interview with Sergei Kiriakov, now playing in Germany for Karlsruhe.

Kiriakov, although a critic, denies making the remarks attributed to him, and is demanding a retraction. He had not made up his mind whether or not to join the squad in America.

The latest Moscow derby match produced a 1-1 draw between Spartak and Dynamo, who now are managed by 73-year-old Konstantin Beskov. Only 15,000 turned up, although the clubs are first and second in the table.

Newcomers KAMAZ, a provincial autoworks club, are third. They are using several veterans, including former international Ivan Yaremchuk, once of Kiev Dynamo.

VICTOR GUSEV

ALBANIA

TEUTA are the champions for the first time in Albanian history. Their 3-0 away win over Besa put them four points clear of Tirana, with two games left.

But even if Teuta lost both and Tirana won both, the goal difference is so vast that the outcome would be the same.

Teuta, from the town of Durresi, have conceded only nine goals so far, with goalkeeper Xhevair Kapliani remaining unbeaten for one spell lasting 762 minutes.

The club were formed in 1925 but had never won an honour until now.

Tirana beat Flamurtari 1-0 with a last-minute goal by Indrit Fortuzi, who had missed a penalty earlier on, but they lost their final chance to close the gap when going down 3-2 away to Beselidhja.

GEZIM NUSHI

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria Salzburg	30	17	8	5	42	12	42
Austria Vienna	31	19	4	8	55	35	42
Admira Wacker	31	14	8	9	40	30	36
Innsbruck	31	12	10	9	38	29	34
Rapid Vienna	31	11	9	11	36	37	31
VfB Modling	31	10	10	11	26	42	30
Sturm Graz	31	11	7	13	34	38	29
Vorwarts Steyr	30	8	8	14	37	41	24
St Polten	31	8	6	16	31	47	22
Sportclub	31	4	10	17	19	47	18

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Anderlecht	33	23	7	3	77	31	53
Club Brugge	33	19	13	1	49	18	51
Seraing	33	15	13	5	49	24	43
Antwerp	33	14	13	6	44	33	41
Charleroi	33	17	5	11	58	48	39
Standard Liege	33	12	12	9	40	21	36
Oostend	33	10	15	8	43	39	35
Mechelen	33	10	14	9	39	39	34
Beveren	33	11	10	12	41	39	32
Ekeren	33	11	9	13	48	47	31
Cercle Brugge	33	9	11	13	52	61	29
FC Liege	33	9	11	13	39	56	29
Lommel	33	9	10	14	37	50	28
Lierse	33	7	14	12	29	40	28
Ghent	33	7	12	14	41	55	26
Molenbeek	33	7	11	15	31	44	25
Waregem	33	5	7	21	30	61	17
Genk	33	4	9	20	37	78	17

DENMARK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Silkeborg	6	3	2	1	13	4	21
OB Odense	6	2	3	1	6	6	19
Brondby	6	2	3	1	10	7	17
FC Copenhagen	6	2	2	2	10	12	17
AaB Aalborg	5	1	4	0	8	7	15
Ikast	6	2	2	2	4	5	15
Lyngby	6	2	0	4	4	9	14
AGF Aarhus	5	1	0	4	4	9	10

HOLLAND — *Final table*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	34	26	2	6	86	26	54
Feyenoord	34	19	13	2	61	27	51
PSV Eindhoven	34	17	10	7	60	36	44
Vitesse Arnhem	34	17	6	11	63	37	41
FC Twente	34	15	9	10	57	43	39
Roda JC	34	15	8	11	55	40	38
NAC Breda	34	14	10	10	61	52	38
Willem II Tilburg	34	15	7	12	48	42	37
Sparta Rotterdam	34	12	8	14	58	58	32
MVV Maastricht	34	11	10	13	49	58	32
FC Volendam	34	13	4	17	46	55	30
GA Eagles	34	10	8	16	44	57	28
SC Heerenveen	34	9	10	15	35	61	28
FC Groningen	34	9	8	17	42	65	26
FC Utrecht	34	9	8	17	40	63	26
RKC Waalwijk	34	8	9	17	38	56	25
VVV Venlo	34	7	11	16	30	62	25
Cambuur	34	6	7	21	28	64	19

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Avenir Beggen	5	3	1	1	12	5	20.5
Grevenmacher	5	3	0	1	7	6	19
Union	4	2	0	2	3	5	15
Dudelange	5	2	1	2	7	10	14.5
Jeunesse Esch	4	0	2	2	2	4	14
Aris Bonnevoie	5	2	0	3	5	6	11.5

NORTHERN IRELAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portadown	28	20	7	1	74	17	67
Glenavon	28	20	4	4	66	27	64
Linfield	27	19	6	2	58	21	63
Crusaders	28	16	6	6	51	29	54
Bangor	27	13	3	11	44	44	42
Cliftonville	28	11	9	8	38	30	39
Glentoran	28	10	7	11	46	40	37
Coleraine	28	9	8	11	38	40	35
Ards	27	10	2	15	50	54	32
Ballyclare	28	8	6	14	33	56	30
Ballymena	28	7	6	15	35	55	27
Newry	26	5	8	13	23	45	23
Carrick	28	6	5	17	41	80	23
Larne	28	5	6	17	29	57	21
Omagh	27	5	4	18	30	57	19

NORWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brann Bergen	1	1	0	0	5	1	3
Rosenborg	1	1	9	9	2	0	3
Viking Stavanger	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Kongsvinger	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Bodo/Glimt	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Lillestrom	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Sogndal	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Tromso	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Valerengen	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
HamKam	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Stark	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Stromsgodset	1	0	0	1	1	5	0

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND — *Final tables*

Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Shamrock Rov	32	21	3	8	62	30	66
Cork City	31	17	8	7	60	36	59
Galway Utd	32	14	8	10	47	42	50
Derry City	32	12	10	10	37	35	46
Shelbourne	32	11	10	11	42	42	43
Bohemians	32	11	8	13	34	35	41

Group B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monaghan Utd	32	13	8	11	41	38	47
Dundalk	32	10	13	9	37	27	43
St Patrick's Ath	32	9	12	11	32	38	39
Cobh Ramblers	32	8	8	16	31	41	32
Limerick	32	6	11	15	23	50	29
Drogheda Utd	32	7	7	18	26	58	28

SWEDEN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oster	7	6	0	1	14	6	18
IFK Gothenburg	6	5	1	0	16	4	16
Orebro	7	4	3	0	16	6	15
Norrkoping	7	4	2	1	15	6	14
Malmo	6	3	3	0	14	7	12
AIK	7	3	3	1	13	9	12
Halmstad	7	3	2	2	11	10	11
Vastra Frolunda	7	2	2	3	6	5	8
Trelleborg	7	1	4	2	6	13	7
Degerfors	6	1	1	4	3	6	4
Helsingborg	6	1	1	4	4	10	4
Hammarby	7	0	2	5	2	12	2
Hacken	7	0	2	5	5	18	2
Landskrona	7	0	2	5	4	17	2

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grasshopper	13	6	4	3	27	16	32
Servette	13	7	5	1	25	13	32
Sion	13	4	5	4	19	15	29
Aarau	13	7	3	3	22	15	28
Lugano	13	4	5	4	19	19	24
Young Boys	13	2	6	5	12	19	23
Lausanne	13	4	1	8	14	26	21
Lucerne	13	2	3	8	15	30	18

WALES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Inter Cardiff	30	19	3	8	77	38	60
Ton Pentre	31	18	6	7	52	29	60
Bangor	28	18	4	6	56	23	58
Newtown	31	16	5	10	45	43	53
Cwmbran Town	31	15	6	10	43	35	51
Ebbw Vale	30	14	8	8	55	48	50
Flint Town Utd	27	15	4	8	53	35	49
Holywell	29	14	6	9	58	45	48
Aberystwyth	30	13	8	9	47	43	47
Connah's Quay	30	11	10	9	41	35	43
Porthmadog	32	11	6	15	70	59	39
Conwy	30	11	5	14	43	49	38
Llanelli	30	10	4	16	55	81	34
Caersws	28	8	9	11	30	41	33
Haverfordwest	31	8	9	14	35	62	33
Afan Lido	30	7	10	13	46	56	31
Mold	30	8	6	16	48	61	30
Maesteg Park	30	6	8	16	39	56	26
Llansantffraid	30	7	4	19	34	62	25
Briton Ferry	30	5	9	16	44	70	24

CYPRUS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Apollon	23	17	3	3	61	21	54
Anorthosis	23	15	7	1	57	16	52
Omonia	23	15	4	4	68	28	49
Apoel	23	15	4	4	57	21	49
Ethnikos	23	13	2	8	37	36	41
AEL	23	12	4	7	39	34	40
Salamina	23	7	8	8	29	27	29
Paralimni	23	7	7	9	26	27	28
Pezoporikos	23	8	4	11	29	36	28
Olympiakos	23	7	3	13	33	45	24
EPA	23	7	2	14	30	45	23
Aradippu	23	6	4	13	22	47	22
Evagoras	23	2	5	16	14	53	11
Apep	23	1	1	21	18	84	0

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AEK Athens	33	24	4	5	61	27	76
Panathinaikos	33	21	6	6	81	32	69
Olympiakos	33	18	13	2	61	25	67
Aris Salonica	33	17	9	7	53	34	60
PAOK	33	13	9	11	44	38	48
OFI Crete	33	13	8	12	54	40	47
Iraklis	33	12	10	11	54	44	46
Xanthi	33	12	9	12	62	61	45
Levadiakos	33	11	9	13	37	40	42
Larissa	33	11	8	14	43	51	41
Panionios	33	11	7	15	47	57	40
Athinaikos	33	11	7	15	34	48	40
Doxa	33	11	5	17	37	63	38
Apollon	33	8	13	12	27	40	37
Panachaiki	33	9	10	14	36	55	37
Edessaikos	33	10	6	17	39	56	36
Kalamaria	33	8	8	17	41	64	32
Naussa	33	5	3	25	37	73	18

ISRAEL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Maccabi Haifa	31	23	8	0	77	20	77
Maccabi Tel Aviv	31	24	4	3	68	26	76
Beitar Jerusalem	31	16	5	10	57	47	53
Hapoel Beersheba	31	14	8	9	41	35	50
Hapoel Tel Aviv	31	13	4	14	45	46	43
Hapoel PT	31	10	10	11	38	36	40
Maccabi Netanya	31	11	7	13	54	58	40
Zafririm Holon	31	9	11	11	35	46	38
Maccabi H.	31	9	9	13	31	36	36
Maccabi PT.	31	8	11	12	27	35	35
Bnei Yehuda	31	10	5	16	36	48	35
Ironi Ashdod	31	7	7	17	43	50	28
Hapoel Kfar	31	6	7	18	26	49	25
Hapoel Haifa	31	4	10	17	23	69	22

MALTA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hibernians	16	12	3	1	42	12	27
Valletta	16	11	3	2	35	13	25
Floriana	16	10	4	2	22	6	24
Hamrun	16	6	9	1	24	10	21
Sliema	16	5	5	6	19	14	15
St Andrews	16	5	3	8	17	24	13
Zurrieq	16	4	4	8	16	25	12
Birkirkara	16	6	0	10	19	32	12
Rabat Ajax	16	2	6	8	15	33	10
Mqabba	16	0	1	15	3	43	1

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Benfica	29	21	6	2	63	20	48
Sporting Lisbon	29	21	4	4	60	19	46
FC Porto	28	17	8	3	51	15	42
Boavista	29	14	5	10	42	29	33
Maritimo	29	11	9	9	40	37	31
Guimaraes	29	11	9	9	28	26	31
Farense	29	11	7	11	38	40	29
Salgueiros	29	12	3	14	43	44	27
Belenenses	29	11	5	13	31	31	27
Gil Vicente	29	8	10	11	24	43	26
Amadora	29	7	12	10	31	32	26
Setubal	29	10	5	14	46	39	25
Madeira	28	9	7	12	30	37	25
Braga	29	8	8	13	26	35	24
Beira-Mar	29	7	9	13	24	36	23
Pacos Ferreira	29	6	10	13	26	42	22
Famalicao	29	6	8	15	25	62	20
Estoril	29	3	9	17	18	49	14

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Galatasaray	29	21	4	4	65	28	67
Fenerbahce	29	20	6	3	65	26	66
Trabzonspor	29	16	8	5	63	26	56
Besiktas	29	15	6	8	55	30	51
Samsunspor	29	14	5	10	52	47	47
Kocaelispor	29	13	6	10	42	44	45
Genclerbirligi	29	13	5	11	50	48	44
Bursaspor	29	9	8	12	26	37	35
Gaziantepspor	29	9	5	15	46	53	32
Altay	29	8	8	13	33	42	32
Ankaragucu	29	8	7	14	37	51	31
Kayserispor	29	8	7	14	30	47	31
DC Karabukspor	29	7	7	15	34	60	28
Zeytinburnuspor	29	7	6	16	31	50	27
Karsiyaka	29	7	6	16	19	39	27
Sariyer	29	6	8	15	26	46	26

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Teuta	24	13	9	3	36	9	34
Tirana	24	12	6	6	35	16	30
Flamurtari	24	11	7	6	25	15	29
Vllaznia	24	10	6	8	30	25	26
Elbasani	24	9	6	9	22	25	24
Partizani	24	6	11	7	26	24	23
Dinamo	24	5	13	6	22	24	23
Beselidhja	24	10	3	11	25	30	23
Albpetrol	24	7	8	9	26	29	22
Lushnja	24	7	7	10	20	25	21
Laci	24	7	7	10	27	33	21
Apolonia	24	6	9	9	18	25	21
Besa	24	7	7	10	20	34	21
Sopoti	24	6	6	12	16	34	18

BULGARIA — *Final table*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Levski	28	22	5	1	78	17	71
CSKA	28	17	3	8	58	27	54
Botev	28	15	5	8	50	29	50
Shoumen	28	14	6	8	49	34	48
Etur	28	10	10	8	42	33	40
Lokomotiv Plovdiv	28	12	4	12	38	43	40
Beroe	28	11	5	12	33	38	38
Lokomotiv GO	28	11	5	12	25	39	38
Pirin	28	10	6	12	35	36	36
Slavia	28	9	9	10	30	37	36
Lokomotiv Sofia	28	10	4	14	37	40	34
Dobroudja	28	8	10	10	37	42	34
Chernomorets	28	8	6	14	30	36	30
Cherno More	28	5	6	17	24	68	21
Spartak Varna	28	4	4	20	18	65	16

CROATIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hadjuk Split	25	17	4	4	59	29	38
Zagreb	25	15	7	3	46	24	37
Croatia Zagreb	25	13	7	5	58	21	33
Varteks	25	13	7	5	41	20	33
Rijeka	25	9	13	3	33	17	31
Cibalia Vink	25	9	10	6	32	19	28
Inker Zapresic	25	11	5	9	33	32	27
Segesta Sisak	25	9	8	8	32	32	26
Belisce	25	9	6	10	40	36	24
Istra Pola	25	9	6	10	24	25	24
Osijek	25	7	9	9	37	44	23
Primorac	25	8	7	10	26	33	23
Zardar	25	5	13	7	15	26	23
Sibenik	25	6	7	12	22	35	19
Dubrava	25	6	7	12	23	37	19
Dubrovnik	25	6	6	13	19	40	18
Pazinka Pisino	25	4	8	13	27	47	16
Radnik VG	25	3	2	29	13	63	8

CZECH REPUBLIC

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sparta Prague	25	17	5	3	56	18	39
Banik Ostrava	25	13	6	6	45	19	32
Slavia Prague	25	13	6	6	45	24	32
Union Cheb	25	12	7	6	26	22	31
Sigma Olomouc	25	12	5	8	37	23	29
Budejovice	25	10	9	6	29	28	29
Viktoria Plzen	25	9	10	6	28	20	28
Slovan Liberec	25	10	7	8	31	27	27
Viktoria Zizkov	25	9	8	8	36	27	26
Drnovice	25	11	4	10	31	31	26
Svit Zlin	25	9	5	11	30	37	23
FC Boby Brno	25	8	5	12	29	37	21
Bohemians	25	8	5	12	24	42	21
Hradec Kralove	25	7	5	13	20	33	19
FC Vitkovice	25	2	6	17	20	54	10
Dukla Prague	25	1	5	19	17	62	7

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bekescsaba	22	16	3	3	57	17	35
Vac FC	22	13	6	3	43	21	32
Kispest-Honved	22	12	5	5	48	28	29
Ferencvaros	22	12	5	5	35	20	29
Csepel Kordax	22	11	6	5	29	31	28
Raba ETO	22	10	5	7	39	28	25
Ujpesti TE	22	9	6	7	31	25	24
Debrecen	22	9	6	7	27	23	24
Sopron	22	6	6	10	24	35	18
Parmalat	22	5	8	9	24	37	18
Siofok	22	5	7	10	25	36	17
BVSC Dreher	22	5	6	11	23	43	16
Vasas	22	5	5	12	25	33	15
PMSC Fordan	22	4	7	11	17	33	15
MTK	22	4	7	11	23	41	15
Haladas	22	3	6	13	20	39	12

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gornik Zabrze	27	14	10	3	43	25	38
LKS Lodz*	27	15	9	3	44	16	36
GKS Katowice	27	13	10	4	37	23	36
Legia Warsaw*	27	13	12	2	49	19	35
Pogon Szczecin	27	7	16	4	27	20	30
Lech Poznan	27	10	9	8	32	26	29
TM Priewy	27	10	8	9	34	25	28
Ruch Chorzow	27	10	8	9	32	31	28
Zaglebie Lubin	27	9	9	9	36	35	27
Widzew Lodz	27	7	13	7	30	30	27
Hutnik Krakow	27	7	12	8	21	24	26
Warta Poznan	27	9	7	11	26	35	25
Stal Stalowa Wola	27	6	11	10	18	26	23
Stal Mielec	27	6	9	12	24	39	20
Zawisza Bydgoszcz	27	5	9	13	28	51	19
Wisla Krakow*	27	5	11	11	25	38	18
Siarka Tarnobrzeg	27	5	8	14	21	41	18
Polonia Warsaw	27	3	10	14	24	45	16

** = 3 pts deducted*

ROMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Steaua Bucharest	32	20	9	3	55	16	49
Univ. Craiova	32	16	8	8	62	41	40
Dinamo Bucharest	32	15	7	10	60	36	37
Farul	32	14	7	11	41	34	35
Petrolul	32	13	9	10	33	30	35
Rapid Bucharest	32	14	6	12	38	31	34
Gloria Bistrita	32	15	3	14	44	40	33
Inter Sibiu	32	12	8	12	37	38	32
Progresul	32	13	4	15	42	41	30
UT Arad	32	11	8	13	32	46	30
Univ. Olt	32	10	9	13	38	41	29
Ceahlaul	32	10	9	13	26	40	29
FC Brasov	32	12	5	15	33	48	29
Electro. Craiova	32	9	10	13	22	29	28
Poli. Timisoara	32	11	6	15	39	50	28
Otelul Galati	32	11	5	16	36	47	27
Sportul	32	10	7	15	26	40	27
Dacia Unirea	32	9	6	17	31	47	24

RUSSIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Moscow Spartak	6	5	1	0	18	5	11
Moscow Dinamo	6	3	3	0	6	2	9
KAMAZ	6	4	0	2	12	4	8
Sptk Vladikavkaz	6	4	0	2	7	10	8
Torpedo	6	3	1	2	7	4	7
Tekstilshcik	6	3	1	2	5	6	7
Rotor	6	2	2	2	5	4	6
Dyn. Stavropol	6	1	4	1	4	4	6
Lok. Moscow	6	2	2	2	5	7	6
Uralmash	6	2	1	3	5	5	5
Lok. N Novgorod	5	2	1	2	3	3	5
CSKA Moscow	5	2	0	3	3	5	4
Wings of Soviets	6	1	2	3	4	10	4
Zhemchuzhina	6	1	1	4	7	10	3
Dinamo Gazovik	6	1	1	4	2	9	3
Lada	6	0	2	4	1	6	2

SLOVAKIA

Championship Group

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slovan Bratislava	26	18	6	2	32	19	42
Inter Bratislava	26	17	3	8	58	30	37
Dunajska Streda	26	11	7	8	43	33	29
SK Zilina	26	10	8	8	39	26	28
Tatran Presov	26	7	11	8	29	33	28
FC Kosice	26	7	9	9	26	41	23

Relegation Group

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lok. Kosice

INSIDE OUT

COMPILED BY DAVID PROLE & JOHN KELLY

THE SEAT OF THE PROBLEM

A TWO-PAGE feature in *The Guardian*, investigating the current state of soccer in Britain, carried a headline saying that Lord Justice Taylor, he of the celebrated report into safety at grounds, explains "where he now stands".

Didn't they mean where he now sits?

ROUGH ON REFS

FIFA have fined the Mexican FA about £40,000 for allowing referees to wear advertising on their shirts during the First DIvision programme one day in March. The rules prohibit any such money-making scheme.

OK for players — especially goalkeepers — to appear like mobile billboards. Ok for grounds to be plastered with hoardings, some with TV screens too. Ok for match programmes to be stuffed with adverts, for sound systems to extol goods produced by all and sundry.

We think this FIFA decision is totally wrong. If anyone is daft to want to pay for turning refs into something out of Saatchi and Saatchi, then let them get on with it.

And let the whistlers get a share of the loot, too. Lord knows they earn every penny of what they get.

PITCH BATTLE IN STANFORD

THIS could only happen in the good old US of A . . . the heads of Stanford University are erecting a 500-seat stage on the soccer pitch.

The bigwigs will sit there during a degree ceremony on June 12, with some 3,000 students spread out around the playing area waiting for their turn to get their gongs.

Eight days later, Brazil are due to play Russia in a World Cup game on that pitch. "If the field is damaged, then it will be repaired," said a Stanford staffer. "Graduation comes before football."

If there's any kerfuffle over a damaged limb or two, caused by players tripping over pot-holes or colliding with misplaced chairs, remember you read it here first.

CHICKEN KIEV?

TV commentator Serhiy Derepa has been barred from covering Dynamo Kiev matches, because he criticised a referee for awarding the club a penalty in a recent match.

CANARIES' FEATHERS RUFFLED BY CHICK!

YOU HAVE to spot talent while it's young. And a Norwich City scout thought he had discovered a good 'un.

Even at the tender age of 11, the midfielder in question showed speed, footwork and balance. Just the sort of skills that were worth a trial at Carrow Road.

So he approached Mark Cohen, coach of Georgetown under-12s in Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales, only to be given some bad news. The "lad" who had caught his eye is a girl — Kelly Hughes.

"I love soccer and if I'm better than the boys then I should be allowed to become a professional when I grow up," she says. Unfortunately for her, FA rules prevent girls playing soccer with boys beyond the age of 12.

Mr Cohen said: "We were playing in a tournament against teams from Holland, Germany and France, and Kelly had a couple of cracking games. Everybody was talking about how good she was. No wonder the Norwich scout was impressed."

A Norwich spokesman said: "Kelly's welcome to visit the club any time, but the rules say we can only sign boys."

The scout — whose name is being kept secret — said: "Anyone can make a mistake. Kelly looked very skilful, certainly not out of place."

We hope Kelly will be able to join a women's team in due course. Which reminds us: the second Women's World Cup will be held in Sweden next year. And the Americans, who won the first by beating Norway in the final, are determined to stay No. 1.

Four of their squad, including top striker Michelle Akers-Stahl (above), have signed to play in the Swedish League later this year in order to get acclimatised to the conditions.

MARK MAKES A MARK

WE LIKE records to be appreciated, so we're pleased to pay tribute to Chesterfield goalkeeper Mark Leonard, who recently did not concede a goal in eight consecutive away games. The previous best run in away fixtures was seven, set by the great Dino Zoff. "It's great to beat a record set by somebody as famous as Zoff," said Leonard. "I'm really chuffed."

He has every right to be.

FIFA Coca-Cola WORLD RANKING

BRAVO BRAZIL

BRAZIL are back on top of the Coca-Cola FIFA Ranking, two months before the World Cup begins. Their 2-0 victory over Argentina took them above long-time leaders Germany for the first time since last October.

One of this month's biggest climbers are Nigeria. Their triumph at the African Nations Cup in Tunisia took them up 13 places to fifth — the highest position so far achieved by an African country.

Other notable climbers were Zambia, Ivory Coast, Mali, Russia and Northern Ireland. The month's highest climbers were Croatia. Their fine 2-0 win in Spain took them up 22 places to 103rd, with Haiti and Zaire also making good progress in the lower half of the table.

Ranking as of April 19, 1994

Rank	Country	Pts
1	Brazil	58.69
2	Germany	58.62
3	Norway	57.25
4	Switzerland	55.98
5	Nigeria	55.86
6	Denmark	55.81
7	Spain	55.48
8	Holland	55.05
9	Sweden	54.92
10	Argentina	54.47
11	Romania	53.24
12	Russia	51.80
13	Italy	51.65
13	Mexico	51.65
15	France	51.49
16	England	51.17
17	Republic of Ireland	50.55
17	Uruguay	50.55
19	Zambia	49.64
20	Colombia	48.56
21	Ivory Coast	48.42
22	Portugal	47.84
23	United States	46.00
24	Egypt	45.48
25	Bulgaria	44.83
26	Morocco	44.40
27	Cameroon	44.26
28	Poland	44.24
29	Ghana	43.82
30	Tunisia	42.67
31	Scotland	41.86
32	Wales	40.67
33	Belgium	40.41
34	Saudi Arabia	38.96
35	Northern Ireland	38.89
36	Austria	38.86
37	Greece	37.94
38	Algeria	37.27
39	Finland	36.62
40	South Korea	36.14
41	Zimbabwe	35.56
42	Japan	35.54
43	Iceland	35.39
44	Australia	34.65
45	Ecuador	34.26
46	Chile	34.25
47	Bolivia	34.13
48	Mali	33.85
49	Costa Rica	33.75
50	China	33.15
51	Honduras	33.03
52	Israel	32.86
53	Hungary	32.59
54	Slovakia	31.91
55	Canada	31.69
56	United Arab Emirates	31.56
57	Turkey	31.44
58	Senegal	31.03
59	Iran	30.19
60	Qatar	29.52
61	Paraguay	28.393
62	Kuwait	28.25
63	Czech Republic	28.23
64	Guinea	28.04
65	Iraq	27.81
66	Zaire	27.09
67	Gabon	27.02
68	North Korea	26.55
69	Thailand	25.78
70	Sierra Leone	24.75
71	Cyprus	24.69
72	Peru	24.16
73	El Salvador	23.92
74	Yugoslavia	22.98
75	Jamaica	22.92
75	Singapore	22.92
77	Niger	21.81
78	Kenya	21.63
79	New Zealand	21.56
80	Malta	21.49
81	Malawi	20.77
82	Bahrain	20.73
83	Oman	20.09
84	Malaysia	19.94
85	Syria	19.49
86	Bermuda	18.19
87	Lithuania	17.86
88	Latvia	17.41
89	Jordan	16.75
90	Ukraine	16.29
91	Yemen	15.79
92	South Africa	15.63
93	Venezuela	15.61
94	Albania	15.38
95	Trinidad & Tobago	15.07
96	Uganda	14.28
97	Hong Kong	13.87
98	Tanzania	13.72
99	Barbados	13.61
100	Swaziland	13.29
101	Burkina Faso	12.99
102	India	12.98
103	Croatia	12.78
103	Madagascar	12.78
105	Puerto Rico	12.49
106	Burundi	12.12
107	Congo	12.10
108	Indonesia	12.08
109	Gambia	11.71
110	Surinam	11.67
111	Ethiopia	11.59
112	Fiji	11.55
113	Luxembourg	11.49
114	Lebanon	11.40
115	Estonia	11.23
116	Myanmar	11.13
117	Slovenia	11.12
118	Mozambique	10.22
119	Guinea Bissau	10.16
120	Faroe Islands	9.49
121	Antigua	9.28
122	Bangladesh	9.06
123	Togo	8.91
124	Angola	8.78
125	Sudan	8.26
126	Nepal	8.21
127	Sri Lanka	8.06
128	Guatemala	7.65
129	San Marino	7.63
130	Panama	7.44
131	Grenada	7.20
132	St Vincent & the Grenadines	7.04
133	Liberia	7.02
134	Dutch Antilles	6.62
135	Benin	6.09
136	Haiti	5.49
137	Mauritius	5.18
138	Vietnam	5.05
139	Cayman	4.22
141	Byelosrussia	4.00
142	St Lucia	3.96
143	Guyana	3.80
144	Pakistan	3.74
145	Tahiti	3.60
146	Botswana	3.22
147	Mauritania	3.06
148	Laos	2.21
149	Maldives Republic	2.05
149	Cape Verde Islands	2.05
151	Solomon Islands	1.88
152	Brunei	1.59
153	Dominican Republic	1.42
154	Libya	1.36
155	Nicaragua	0.65
156	Georgia	0.42
157	Namibia	0.39
158	Central African Republic	0.29
158	Seycheiles	0.29
160	Liechtenstein	0.28
161	Chinese Taipei	0.25
162	Cuba	0.23
163	Equatorial Guinea	0.15
164	Philippines	0.12
165	Vanuatu	0.04
166	Aruba	0.03
167	Chad	0.00
167	Macao	0.00
167	St Kitts & Nevis	0.00

● *teams inactive since 1988 and new teams not yet having played do not appear.*

WORLD CUP USA94 COUNTDOWN

OUR INDISPENSABLE GUIDE TO THE 15TH WORLD CUP FINALS TOURNAMENT CONCLUDES WITH PROFILES OF SAUDI ARABIA, SOUTH KOREA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND AND THE UNITED STATES, PLUS THREE OF THE STRIKERS INVOLVED — BEBETO, JURGEN KLINSMANN AND FRANCOIS OMAM-BIYIK.

LATEST FROM THE US

BY PAUL GARDNER

A deluge of dollars . . . if the players are good enough

THERE is plenty of money around in the United States, and quite a lot of it will be going to the 22 players who make coach Bora Milutinovic's final World Cup list.

Simly getting into the squad is worth $10,000. Players then get $5,000 for each World Cup game they play, plus $2,500 for each point gained in the first round.

Further progress would result in the United States Soccer Federation paying lump sums into the player pool: $750,000 for reaching the second round, a further $800,000 for the quarter-finals, $850,000 for the semi-finals, $900,000 for the final. And $1 million would go into the pot should the US pull off the upset of the century and win the thing.

The USSF are believed to have an annual income of $3.5 million from marketing, and the World Cup brings in loads of money from ticket sales. These sales continue — despite the earlier impression that all tickets had been sold.

Not so, it appears. A substantial number of tickets were returned from FIFA and foreign associations, and from sponsors. So another public sale was needed. This time, at last, the ordinary buyer could purchase single tickets. On another front, the World Cup organisers got themselves into a spot of bother with the American press. Journalists were asked to sign — as a condition for accreditation — a waiver authorising the FBI to release all criminal records to the World Cup organisers.

The sweeping demand — unprecedented in the history of the World Cup — did not go down well. *The New York Times, The Boston Globe, USA Today,* and *The Associated Press* all perceived an invasion of personal privacy and objected.

All in all, it was not a good moment for the World Cup's security department. Another of their all-embracing demands received a frosty reception in Europe. Seven EC countries, asked to submit a list of hooligans, balked. The Republic of Ireland justice minister, Moire Geoghegan-Quinn, said that to comply would be contrary to human rights and rules on the protection of personal data.

In similar vein was a heavy-handed request from the World Cup organising committee — that venue cities should ban the sale of alcohol on game days. That one went down like lead manure, and was quickly followed by a series of clarifications and denials and explanations which effectively withdrew the request. It was rumoured, surprise, surprise, that Budweiser (a World Cup marketing partner) were not delighted with the request.

Much more encouraging was the conversion of Giants Stadium in New Jersey from artificial to natural grass. A carefully planned process involved the covering of the artificial surface, the addition of about a foot of drainage materials, and the laying of turf. Cost: around $1 million.

The grass presented a healthy green richness that drew rave reviews. Not least from devotees of American football, many of whom would love to see the surface changed permanently to natural grass for the New York Giants and the Jets to play on. Sadly for them, the green stuff is due to be pulled up as soon as the Giants Stadium semi-final is over on July 13.

There will be another disappearance shortly after that.

Mission Viejo will be dismantled. Once the World Cup is over, soccer in the US will return to what passes for normality.

Nobody is at all sure what that might be, but the assumption is that the projected pro league — MLS, Major League Soccer — will be born, and that this will provide a more natural home for aspiring American players than the artificiality of Mission Viejo.

WORLD CUP FINALS RECORDS

SAUDI ARABIA
First appearance in finals

SOUTH KOREA
Finals appearances: 3 (1954, 1986-90).
Best performance: first round.
Biggest win: not won.
Biggest defeat: 9-0 v Hungary (1954).
Record: P8 W0 D1 L7 F5 A29

SPAIN
Finals appearances: 8 (1934, 1950, 1962-66, 1978-90).
Best performance: fourth (1950).
Biggest win: 5-1 v Denmark (1986).
Biggest defeat: 6-1 v Brazil (1950).
Record: P32 W13 D7 L12 F43 A38

SWEDEN
Finals appearances: 8 (1934-50, 1958, 1970-78, 1990).
Best performance: runners-up 1958.
Biggest win: 8-0 v Cuba (1938).
Biggest defeat: 7-1 v Brazil (1950).
Record: P31 W11 D6 L14 F49 A52

SWITZERLAND
Finals appearances: 6 (1934-54, 1962-66).
Best performance: quarter-finals (1954).
Biggest win: 4-1 v Italy (1954).
Biggest defeat: 7-5 v Austria (1954).
Record: P18 W5 D2 L11 F28 A44

UNITED STATES
Finals appearances: 4 (1930-34, 1950, 1990).
Best performance: semi-finalists 1930.
Biggest win: 3-0 v Belgium (1930), 3-0 v Paraguay (1930).
Biggest defeat: 7-1 v Italy (1934).
Record: P10 W3 D0 L7 F14 A29

CANADA by COLIN JOSE

CANADIANS will benefit considerably by the fact that the World Cup finals will be played next door in the United States, even though their own team were eliminated almost a year ago.

Teams going to North America for the finals quite naturally have looked to Canada as an obvious place to prepare.

As a result the Canadian national team will be very, very busy during the first two weeks of June, playing five internationals against World Cup contenders in 12 days. In addition, two other internationals will be staged in Canada between teams competing in the World Cup.

Canada's hectic schedule begins on June 1 with a game against Morocco at the Centre Claude Robillard in Montreal. The team then fly almost 2,000 miles to Edmonton in Western Canada, to play Brazil on June 5 at the Commonwealth Stadium.

Coach Bobby Lenarduzzi then takes his squad back to east Canada to face Germany in Toronto on June 8 at Varsity Stadium, followed by a game against Spain in Montreal on June 10 and one against Holland in Toronto on June 12.

Argentina play South Korea at Varsity Stadium in Toronto on June 4, and Bolivia face Switzerland in Montreal on June 11.

Training camp opened for the Canadians on April 8 in Vancouver, but the squad will be minus European-based players until their season is completed.

Canadians now in England include Craig Forrest and Frank Yallop with Ipswich, Paul Fenwick (Birmingham), Mark Watson (Watford), Ian Carter (Peterborough), Lyndon Hooper (Birmingham), Ian McLean (Bristol Rovers), Paul Peschisolido (Birmingham), Geoff Aunger (Luton), and Carlo Corazzin (Cambridge).

In addition, captain and midfielder Colin Millar has just been transferred from Hamilton to St Johnstone in Scotland, while striker Alex Bunbury, who was with West Ham, has gone to Maritimo in the Portuguese First Division.

Lenarduzzi has the following players in training camp: Paul Dolan, Pat Onstad, Steve MacDonald, Dave Norman, John Catliff, Jim Easton, Dominic Mobilio (Vancouver), Peter Sarantopoulos, Tomasz Radzinsky, Nick Dasovic (Toronto), Nick DeSantis, Patrick Diotte, Rudy Doliscat, Pat Harrington, John Limniatis, Grant Needham, Abdel Sahrane (Montreal), Roderick Scott (Dallas), Kelvin Holness (Regina), Ian Fraser (Kansas City), Norm Odinga (Edmonton) and Marco Rizi (Cleveland).

Canadian clubs will play in the American Professional Soccer League again this year. Vancouver 86ers and Montreal Impact return for their second season, while Toronto Rockets replace Toronto Blizzard.

SAUDI ARABIA

Remember that old Emperor

The Princes may be caught without clothes

BY JONATHAN SHALLARD

THE perfect literary guide to the Saudi Arabian squad would be the cautionary tale of the Emperor's New Clothes, a children's fable in which a proud ruler was made to look foolish by his advisors, who insisted he had something of great quality when in fact he did not.

More money has been invested in preparing this Saudi side than any other team at US '94, and the investment is more than just financial.

When Dutchman Leo Beenhakker was sacked as coach in February, Saudi's King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz al Saud reportedly phoned Argentinian president Carlos Menem for help in hiring Jorge Solari, former coach of Newell's Old Boys.

Solari's first introduction to the world of Saudi football had come when he travelled with the Argentinian side to Riyadh for the Intercontinental Cup in 1992. By all accounts Solari took a bit of nudging from brother Eduardo, then coach of Estudiantes, before he accepted the job.

His reluctance was hardly surprising considering Beenhakker's short and troubled tenure and the midnight departure of the previous coach, Brazilian Jose Candido, in the middle of Asia's final round of World Cup qualifiers last October.

Although well documented at the time, these two incidents are worth reviewing if one is to grasp the critical weakness of Saudi football.

Beenhakker's failing was a training regime described by Saudi officials as "not suitable for this country".

More than likely it was perfectly suitable for a Saudi team high on promise but low on commitment. Beenhakker, more than anybody else, knows this team, and his comments when back in Amsterdam were surprisingly measured.

He praised the potential talent of the side, and had seen improvements. But he scornfully mocked the meddlesome officials who had thwarted his every move, and said he would hand dossiers on the team to Dutch football officials, who ironically face Saudi in the same first-round group.

Likewise Candido found himself bounded out of the team on a midnight flight out of Doha in the middle of the Qatar tournament that decided Asia's two entrants for the World Cup.

He questioned an order to substitute a keeper mid-match, telephoned into the Qatar stadium's Royal Box from a prince watching in Riyadh.

These incidents give real clues as to the likely fortunes of a team who, like the naked Emperor in the children's tale, have not been forced to look in the mirror. Saudi newspaper, TV and radio journalists are forbidden to comment or report on any development in the national team's preparations, including match reports, unless the "news" comes in a statement from the all-powerful General Presidency of Youth Welfare, which runs sport in Saudi Arabia.

This news blackout has given the Saudi team an eerie aura of invincibility, something quite far removed from the facts.

Since the Qatar tournament, which they won on the final day with a 4-3 defeat of Iran, the Saudi side have achieved little success, and indeed have slipped to some rather sombre defeats against unheralded sides.

Under Solari they drew 2-2 at home to Chile, lost 1-0 at home to the same opponents, and were beaten by Poland in France, again 1-0.

Beenhakker's record was not much better: a win 1-0 over China, two draws (China 1-1, Colombia 1-1) and three defeats (Colombia 1-0, Mechelen 2-0 and Vitesse Arnhem 4-1).

Saudi Arabia's playing record in the run-up to the World Cup suffers from the overweening sense of protection given to the side by football administrators over the years.

Before qualifying, the side rarely played the sort of tough European or South American teams who would have taught them valuable lessons.

Saudi's trip to US '94 was booked in Qatar last October with a record of only two wins and three draws against some very spirited but technically slack opposition. Holland and Belgium are from a different footballing planet, and even fellow Arab travellers Morocco have genuine World Cup credentials. If Saudi football administrators realised after Qatar that the road to the World Cup would be tough, they sent out confusing messages by giving areas of land and a cash bonus, rumoured to about $100,000, to each member of the qualifying squad.

Even more confusing, they sacked Beenhakker and so set in concrete the Saudi vision of what a coach can and cannot do.

"Saudis do not understand the international concept of the coach's job," said one Middle East writer, who asked to remain anonymous.

"Solari would know that his responsibility begins and ends with delivering a team who are fit and understand soccer principles.

> **'This is a squad high on promise but low on commitment'**

"Everything else, from selection to tactics, will come from the Royal Princes."

King Fahd's siblings dominate Saudi football, but ironically team selection is one of the least contentious issues.

Saudi Arabia will be led from the front by the hugely popular Majed Abdullah Mohammed, dubbed the Desert Pele. The records show that he has scored 118 goals in 165 international games, and while it's probable the figures have been exaggerated, his talent should be obvious for all to see.

After the level-headed Abdullah, attention invariably switches to the Brazilian-flavoured Saeed Owairan and Khalid Musaad.

Both have extravagant long distance shooting skill but relatively low success rates. Saudi's back four will move easily across the pitch but have a worrisome reluctance to tackle.

As for the excellent keeper, Mohammed Al Deayea, he may well wish that he could have stayed at home.

Saudi stars . . . goalscoring full-back Abdullah Al Dosari (above) and goalkeeper Mohammed Al Deayea (inset).

Saudi support . . . out of sight!

HOW THEY QUALIFIED
ASIA
First Round
GROUP E

01.05.93	**Saudi Arabia** v Macao ▲	6-0
01.05.93	Malaysia v Kuwait ▲	1-1
03.05.93	Kuwait v Macao ▲	10-1
03.05.93	Malaysia v **Saudi Arabia** ▲	1-1
05.05.93	**Saudi Arabia** v Kuwait ▲	0-0
05.05.93	Malaysia v Macao ▲	9-0
14.05.93	Malaysia v Kuwait ▼	0-2
14.05.93	**Saudi Arabia** v Macao ▼	8-0
16.05.93	Macao v Kuwait ▼	0-8
16.05.93	**Saudi Arabia** v Malaysia ▼	3-0
18.05.93	Malaysia v Macao ▼	5-0
18.05.93	**Saudi Arabia** v Kuwait ▼	2-0

▲ in Kuala Lumpur
▼ in Riyadh

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SAUDI ARABIA	6	4	2	0	20	1	10
Kuwait	6	3	2	1	21	4	8
Malaysia	6	2	2	2	16	7	6
Macao	6	0	0	6	1	46	0

Second Round

15.10.93	North Korea v Iraq	3-2
15.10.93	**Saudi Arabia** v Japan	0-0
16.10.93	Iran v South Korea	0-3
18.10.93	North Korea v **Saudi Arabia**	1-2
18.10.93	Japan v Iran	1-2
19.10.93	Iraq v South Korea	2-2
21.10.93	North Korea v Japan	0-3
22.10.93	Iran v Iraq	1-2
22.10.93	South Korea v **Saudi Arabia**	1-1
24.10.93	Iraq v **Saudi Arabia**	1-1
25.10.93	Japan v South Korea	1-0
25.10.93	Iran v North Korea	2-1
28.10.93	South Korea v North Korea	3-0
28.10.93	**Saudi Arabia** v Iran	4-3
28.10.93	Iraq v Japan	2-2

● all matches in Doha, Qatar.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SAUDI ARABIA	5	2	3	0	8	6	7
SOUTH KOREA	5	2	2	1	9	4	6
Japan	5	2	2	1	7	4	6
Iraq	5	1	3	1	9	9	5
Iran	5	2	0	3	8	11	4
North Korea	5	1	0	4	5	12	2

1994 WORLD CUP SCHEDULE

FIRST ROUND

GROUP F

BELGIUM
MOROCCO
HOLLAND
SAUDI ARABIA

19.06.94	Belgium v Morocco	Orlando
20.06.94	Holland v Saudi Arabia	Washington
25.06.94	Belgium v Holland	Orlando
25.06.94	Saudi Arabia v Morocco	New York
29.06.94	Morocco v Holland	Orlando
29.06.94	Belgium v Saudi Arabia	Washington

the COACH

Jorge SOLARI. Aged 54. Recent Royal appointment, succeeding Dutchman Leo Beenhakker. Former Argentina international who was in the team knocked out of the 1966 World Cup in a controversial quarter-final at Wembley. Later coached various South American clubs, most recently Newell's Old Boys in Argentina, who sacked him last Christmas.

the SQUAD

Mohammed AL DEAYEA. Goalkeeper. Aged 21 (born 21 August 1, 1972) with 27 caps. Al Tai. First-choice keeper for the last two years. Particularly athletic and Saudi hero of the Qatar tournament. His elder brother was the keeper when Saudi won the 1992 Asian Cup.

Hussein AL SADIG. Goalkeeper. Aged 20 (born 15 October, 1973) with 14 caps. Al Qadesia. Likely reserve goalkeeper to Al Deayea.

Abdullah AL DOSARI. Defender. Aged 24 (born 1 November, 1969) with 53 caps. Al Etefag. Attacking defender with an eye for goals.

Abdulrahman AL ROOMI. Defender. Aged 24 (born 28 October, 1969) with 67 caps. Al Shabab. Veteran national team defender, now often used as a substitute.

Mohammed AL KHLAWI. Defender. Aged 22 (born 1 September,1971) with 16 caps. Al Ittihad. Very fit player with a good understanding with the key defender, Ahmed Jameel. Somewhat controversially he has kept the experienced Abdul Rahman Al Roumi out of the team.

Mohammed AL JAWAD. Defender. Aged 31 (born 8 December, 1962) with 127 caps (20 goals). Al Ahli. Second-oldest player in the side. Relatively fast and competent left-back who likes running through to attack but is hampered by questionable fitness.

Salom AL ALWI. Defender. Aged 21 (born 21 August, 1972) with 30 caps. Al Shabab. Highly experienced reserve defender.

AMIN Fuad (right). Midfielder. Aged 21 (born 13 October, 1972) with 46 caps (40 goals). Al Shabab. Probably the best performer in all of the lead-in matches. Substitute captain should Abdullah be injured.

Hamzah SALEH. Midfielder. Aged 27 (born 19 April, 1967) with 10 caps. Al Ahli. Particularly fast and skilful but is playing below his potential and rarely gets the support he needs.

Mansour AL MUAINEA. Midfielder. Aged 23 (born 6 October, 1970) with 17 caps (3 goals). Al Hilal. A versatile all-seasons player who rivals Hamzah Saleh for the disputed place in the Saudi midfield.

Khalid AL MUWALLID. Midfielder. Aged 22 (born 23 November, 1971) with 35 caps (9 goals). Al Ahli. Left-footed playmaker who often plays as a forward. The team's most skilful player. Won the most valuable player award at the 1992 Arab Cup played in Syria.

Ahmed MADANI. Midfielder. Aged 24 (born 6 January, 1970) with 77 caps. Al Ittihad. Highly experienced full-back who scored Saudi's goal in the 1-1 qualifying draw with South Korea.

Mansour AL MOSA. Midfielder. Aged 21 (born 29 October 1972) with 29 caps. Al Najma. Attacking midfielder who scored Saudi's third goal in the vital 4-3 qualifying win over Iran.

Saeed OWAIRAN. Forward. Aged 26 (born 19 August, 1967) with 22 caps (18 goals). Al Shabab. In the past few months he has played in midfield to strengthen the team's counter-attacking ability. Very fit and strong, and a free-kick specialist.

Sami AL JABER. Forward. Aged 21 (born 11 December, 1972) with 23 caps (20 goals). Al Hilal. Very quick and particularly dangerous in the penalty area with his natural finishing skills. Was top scorer in the Saudi 1992-93 season.

Majed Abdullah MOHAMMED. Forward. Aged 35 (born 11 January, 1959) with 165 caps (118 goals). Al Nasr. The first real Arab football star, good with both feet and excellent header. Highly skilful but highly fragile as well.

Fahad MEHALEL. Forward. Aged 23 (born 11 November, 1970) with 29 caps (4 goals). Al Shabab. Very quick but a bit limited in tight situations. Prefers space and is most dangerous from outside the area.

Nezar AL ABAAS. Forward. Aged 27 (born 9 January 1967) with no caps. Al Ittihad. Valuable squad member, likely to be on the subs' bench.

Hamzah FALATAH. Forward. Aged 21 (born 9 October 1972) with 32 caps. Ohud. Promising youngster who could be used as a substitute.

SOUTH KOREA

Time to break bad habits

A good show will help 2002 campaign

BY CHARLIE CHARTERS

TWO things make the 1994 South Korean World Cup side markedly different from the inconsequential teams in Mexico (1986), Italy (1990) and Switzerland (back in 1954).

Firstly, Korea's World Cup trip to the United States is indelibly wrapped up with the country's attempt to host the 2002 World Cup, a race that rivals Japan seemed close to winning until their failure to qualify for the US gave the Korean campaign added momentum.

Japan's absence gives South Korea a rare chance to hog the world stage and focus on one of the few issues that genuinely separate the two campaigns: World Cup pedigree.

Secondly, Koreans at all levels of the game remember and are thankful, but quite embarrassed as well, that only by goal difference did they beat Japan back in October in the Asian World Cup qualifiers. That gave them the continent's second place behind Saudi Arabia. Japan were within seconds of qualifying, defending a 2-1 lead when Iraq's Salman Omran nodded in a cross from Hassan Salim. The point for the draw was not enough for Japan, and allowed South Korea through on goal difference.

After the match Iraq's consulate in Korea was awash with flowers and gifts as Koreans offered thanks for saving the country from World Cup ignominy, and possible humiliation by Japan.

Both reasons for Korea's improved chances this year therefore have less to do with tactics than emotion. There are no particularly exciting new players or playing strategies to rave about. But these are changed times for Korean football, and that can only be good news for their World Cup campaign.

For the first time the team management have the playing mandate needed to throw off the suffocating restrictions on player releases imposed by the corporations who run the domestic league.

This proved to be a particular problem at Italia '90. The FIFA report into the Korean side was unusually harsh in reporting that team preparation was hampered "due to no release of players from the clubs" and "no further camp possible due to First Division."

This side may not be the best prepared of the 24 teams to play in the World Cup but they will certainly be the best prepared team ever to leave South Korea.

Much of the criticism during past World Cups has its roots in the strange history of the game in the country, and may not be easy to throw off in the short time since the dramatic Qatar tournament last October.

For instance, despite the game's popularity, there is next to no coverage of any of the European or South American leagues or Cups on South Korea TV.

This should not be taken as the end of the world. After all, when the maverick North Korean side beat Italy in 1966 to reach the second round of the World Cup, they had no TV coverage either.

But in South Korea's case the lack of foreign tactical inspiration does help explain the shortage of creativity on the field that always has made the team very efficient but rather one-dimensional.

This sense of isolation is ending as the 2002 World Cup campaign kicks off, but change and a broader international perspective may not come quickly enough to help these players in the US. One criticism that should be easier to tackle is Korea's worrying inability to hold a lead and concentrate through a full 90 minutes.

In the Qatar tournament, South Korea gave up leads in the final 10 minutes against both Saudi Arabia and Iraq, settling for draws where victories seemed a certainty.

And on a recent five-game tour of the US, South Korea's two drawn matches (Colombia 2-2 and US 1-1) and one loss (US 1-0), all came as a result of goals conceded in the second half.

Part of coach Kim Ho's task in sustaining the team over 90 minutes will be to teach players to think and react on their feet, as opposed to the programmed, easy-to-read fashion which has haunted Korea's previous World Cup forays.

After all, the longer a team play to a set pattern during a match, the easier it becomes to anticipate. This is why Korea are so vulnerable in the closing stages.

Anything less will certainly prove easy meat for the likes of Germany and Spain, who contest the same group.

Kim will be helped by Anatoli Byshovets, the former Kiev Dynamo player and manager of Moscow Dynamo, who joined the Korean team as technical advisor back in February. Byshovets was a natural for selection by the Koreans, having won the Seoul Olympic soccer competition back in 1988 with the Soviet side.

Defensively the South Koreans will be well organised and efficient, qualities not too hard to find in Korean teams. Choi In-Young is a world-class keeper. Hong Mung-Bo is the designated sweeper, and Shin Hong-Gi is the key link, turning defence into attack.

Happily Shin possesses both sharp vision and pinpoint passing skill. But he will be only as good as the tactical options and running off the ball by his team-mates.

Korea's midfield is a mix of instinctive defenders and attackers, with Ko Jeong-Woon, Ch Jin-Ho and Seo Jung-Won all playing back and out of position instead of in the front line, where their clubs would have them.

Up front Korea are happy to welcome back Hwang Sung-Hong, terribly injured in a tackle two years ago and only just fit now.

He would work easily with a combination of Bochum's midfield star Kim Ju-Sung and Sanfrecce Hiroshima's Noh Jung-Yoon, currently one of the J.League's top scorers.

Korea certainly have the players to pull off a mini-upset and push through to the second round, which is their implicit goal for US '94. But only the next weeks of preparation will show whether this technically good side can be taught to break habits of a lifetime.

> **'For the first time the team management have the playing mandate needed to throw off the suffocating restrictions on player releases imposed by the corporations who run the domestic league'**

Eastern promise . . . South Korean midfielders Kim Joo-Sung (top) and Noh Jung-Yoon (left).

HOW THEY QUALIFIED

ASIA

First Round

GROUP D

07.05.93	Lebanon v India ▲	2-2
07.05.93	Hong Kong v Bahrain ▲	2-1
09.05.93	Bahrain v **South Korea** ▲	0-0
09.05.93	Lebanon v Hong Kong ▲	2-2
11.05.93	India v Hong Kong ▲	1-2
11.05.93	Lebanon v **South Korea** ▲	0-1
13.05.93	Lebanon v Bahrain ▲	0-0
13.05.93	India v **South Korea** ▲	0-3
15.05.93	Hong Kong v **South Korea** ▲	0-3
15.05.93	Bahrain v India ▲	2-1
05.06.93	**South Korea** v Hong Kong ▼	3-0
05.06.93	Bahrain v Lebanon ▼	0-0
07.06.93	India v Bahrain ▼	0-3
07.06.93	**South Korea** v Lebanon ▼	2-0
09.06.93	Hong Kong v Lebanon ▼	1-2
09.06.93	**South Korea** v India ▼	7-0
11.06.93	India v Lebanon ▼	1-2
11.06.93	Bahrain v Hong Kong ▼	3-0
13.06.93	**South Korea** v Bahrain ▼	3-0
13.06.93	Hong Kong v India ▼	1-3

▲ in Beirut, Lebanon
▼ in Seoul, South Korea

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SOUTH KOREA	8	7	1	0	22	0	15
Bahrain	8	3	3	2	9	6	9
Lebanon	8	2	4	2	8	9	8
Hong Kong	8	2	1	5	8	18	5
India	8	1	1	6	8	22	3

Second Round

15.10.93	North Korea v Iraq	3-2
15.10.93	Saudi Arabia v Japan	0-0
16.10.93	Iran v **South Korea**	0-3
18.10.93	North Korea v Saudi Arabia	1-2
18.10.93	Japan v Iran	1-2
19.10.93	Iraq v **South Korea**	2-2
21.10.93	North Korea v Japan	0-3
22.10.93	Iran v Iraq	1-2
22.10.93	**South Korea** v Saudi Arabia	1-1
24.10.93	Iraq v Saudi Arabia	1-1
25.10.93	Japan v **South Korea**	1-0
25.10.93	Iran v North Korea	2-1
28.10.93	**South Korea** v North Korea	3-0
28.10.93	Saudi Arabia v Iran	4-3
28.10.93	Iraq v Japan	2-2

● all matches in Doha, Qatar.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SAUDI ARABIA	5	2	3	0	8	6	7
SOUTH KOREA	5	2	2	1	9	4	6
Japan	5	2	2	1	7	4	6
Iraq	5	1	3	1	9	9	5
Iran	5	2	0	3	8	11	4
North Korea	5	1	0	4	5	12	2

the COACH

HO Kim. Aged 49 (born November 17, 1944). Won 50 caps for South Korea between 1966 and 1976. Retired in 1978 to take up coaching. Appointed team manager of Hyundai in 1984, guiding them to second in the Korean League in 1990. Ho was appointed national manager after the 1990 World Cup disappointment.

the SQUAD

CHOI In-Young. Goalkeeper. Aged 32 (born March 5, 1962) with 30 caps. Hyundai Horang. Sharp vision and anticipation have made Choi the number one pick for the Korean side. Particularly good in close, penalty-area incidents.

LEE Won-Jae. Goalkeeper. Aged 21 (born April 26, 1973) with 20 caps. Kyunghee University. Member of the 1992 Olympic side and the national side at the World Student Games in Buffalo in 1993.

HONG Myung-Bo. Defender. Aged 25 (born February 12, 1969) with 46 caps (4 goals). Posco Atoms. Voted on to the Asia XI after the Qatar World Cup tournament plus won Korean League MVP in 1992. Designated sweeper.

SHIN Hong-Gi. Defender. Aged 26 (born May 4, 1968) with 24 caps (2 goals). Hyundai Horang. Also voted on to the Asia XI after Qatar tournament. Considered to have best physical endurance in Korean team.

KANG Chul. Defender. Defender. Aged 22 (born November 1, 1971) with 16 caps (1 goal). Yukong Elephants. Injured before the Qatar tournament. Perceptive defender.

PARK Jung-Bae. Defender. Aged 27 (born February 19, 1967) with 25 caps (2 goals). Daewoo Royals. Team stopper who's height and physical power make him the pillar of the Korean defence.

GU Sung-Bum (below). Defender. Aged 29 (born June 15, 1964) with 69 caps (2 goals). Lucky Goldstar Cheetahs.

One of the most experienced in the side having played during the Seoul Olympics and Italia' 90 campaigns. Efficient ball distributor and not afraid to run forward.

KIM Pan-Keun. Defender. Aged 28 (born March 5, 1966) with 23 caps (1 goal). Lucky Goldstar Cheetahs. Played in Italia '90. His diminutive size but excellent football brain has made him one of the most valuable members of Korea's defence.

KO Jong-Woon. Midfield. Aged 27 (born June 27, 1966) with 30 caps (5 goals). Ilhwa Chonma. His uncanny speed is one of his key strengths, not so much over 100 metres but in bursts over a small area. Usually a winger.

CHOI Moon-Sik. Midfield. Aged 23 (born January 6, 1971) with 19 caps (4 goals). Posco Atoms. Ball distribution is considered his speciality. Will also take the bulk of Korean set plays with Hong Myung-Bo.

CHO Jin-Ho. Midfield. Aged 22 (born August 2, 1972) with 2 caps. Posco Atoms. Played in the unsuccessful Korean side in the 1992 Coca-Cola Youth Cup and then graduated to national B team striker. Pushed into the midfield for the World Cup.

KIM Joo-Sung. Midfield. Aged 28 (born January 17, 1966). with 81 caps (12 goals). VfL Bochum (Ger). Plays for Germany's Bochum and has been in the last two World Cups as well as being twice Asian player of the Year. The big name in the side, known for his stunning ball control and fast distribution.

SEO Jung-Won. Midfield. Aged 23 (born December 17, 1970) with 35 caps (9 goals). Lucky Goldstar Cheetahs. Attacking midfield player who covers 100 metres in a respectable 11.6 seconds, the fastest in the Korean side.

NOH Jung-Yoon. Midfield. Aged 23 (born March 28, 1971) with 63 caps (11 goals) Sanfrecce Hiroshima (Jap). Member of the 1991 Olympic side. Now playing with Sanfrecce Hiroshima in the J.League where he has scored four times and is the club's most expensive overseas player.

HWANG Sun-Hong. Forward. Aged 25 (born July 14, 1968) with 46 caps (19 goals). Posco Atoms. Team striker and with his height is an especially strong header of the ball. Career was almost wrecked in a tackle two years ago in a German league match, but three operations later he is almost fully recovered.

HA Seok-Ju. Forward. Aged 26 (born February 20, 1968) with 29 caps (13 goals). Daewoo Royals. Extremely fast and the country's top scorer in the preliminary rounds to the Qatar competition. He is almost totally reliant on his left foot.

KIM Jeong-Hyoek. Forward. Aged 26 (born November 30, 1968) with 25 caps. Daewoo Royals. Striker likely to be on the bench in the US. Represented Korea at the World University Games in Zagreb.

LEE Gi-Bum. Forward. Aged 23 (born August 8, 1970) with 37 caps. Ilhwa Chonma. At five feet four inches, the smallest member of the squad.

SPAIN

Coach Clemente tosses a coin

Gambling on a clear break

BY GRAHAM TURNER

SPAIN travel to US '94 having tossed a coin in the air. Nobody is quite sure how it's going to land. Heads for a surprise win, tails for another failure.

The Federation have gambled heavily on Javier Clemente's work as national team manager, and the brash, outspoken little Basque is the sort who attracts friends or foes with precious few in the middle ground. Of the four major sports dailies in Madrid and Barcelona, two offer passionate support. The other two are vigorously against.

Clemente has opted to break very new ground, thoroughly disgusted by Spain's record of under-achievement. Even though they have not missed the finals since 1974, the only banner they have unfurled has been the flag of anonymity. Hence Clemente's decision to make a clean break from the Real Madrid stalwarts, Sanchis, Michel, Martin Vazquez and Butragueno.

"They've had chances," he snaps, "and we've done nothing."

Although his decision to shift power from Madrid to Barcelona might suggest otherwise. Clemente's change of heart entails a move towards the less artistic, more physical game he favoured at Bilbao, Espanol and Atletico Madrid.

The Barcelona players who pack his squad are not the Laudrups, the Stoichkovs or the Romarios. They're the Bakeros, the Ferrers and the Nadals — good, honest stokers for the engine room.

Clemente, having experimented with 50 players since taking over in September 1992, seems likely to go to the United States with only four of the 22 who went to Italy in 1990.

One of them is Spain's most-capped player of all time, Andoni Zubizarreta, who will miss the opening game against South Korea through suspension. Apart from Zubi and his 86 caps, the squad average 10 per head.

Perhaps more worrying than a possible lack of big-time experience is the fact that the 19 outfield players have accumulated barely 60 goals between them this season. Clemente does not seem unduly worried. He points out that Julio Salinas, top scorer in the qualifiers, has not started a game for Barcelona this season and should thus avoid accusations of not being fresh.

Clemente began to feel satisfied after the impressive 3-1 qualifying victory in Dublin, where Spain operated a 3-3-3-1 formation with great success against the Republic of Ireland. But many questions remain to be answered in the States, where South Korea and Bolivia can be expected to provide a very different brand of opposition in comparison with the qualifying group of Denmark, the two Irish teams, Albania and two Baltic States.

In view of the likely temperatures in Dallas and Chicago, much could depend on the degree of tactical flexibility Clemente can build into his fairly basic system, much as he might claim to have opted for "the most complex attacking system imaginable".

Significantly, Clemente regards the nippy South Korean game as the most serious first-phase threat to his beefcake side.

He can guarantee to deliver a well-drilled, highly-motivated side, and is confident enough to allow the Spanish media to share his team's headquarters, arguing that they will help to keep his players on their toes and avoid boredom.

Clemente's brash statements corner enough of the headlines to divert pressure from his squad.

Nadal, Hierro and Caminero are capable of arousing admiration for their box-to-box work. All three can operate in defensive roles but the last two are likely to burst through into scoring positions.

If you are looking for artistry rather than The Compleat Footballer, Clemente may frustrate you with his selection.

'This change of heart means a more physical game'

Josep Guardiola, the pivot of Johan Cruyff's Barcelona side, is a sporadic starter for Spain. Luis Enrique and Goikoetxea both started their careers as wingers only be withdrawn into wing-back roles. Gijon striker Juanele is the Cantona-style enfant terrible who can pull rabbits out of hats but, again, is more likely to be thrown on as a second-half sub than to figure in the starting line-up.

All of which might leave Guerrero to fire the imagination. Alternating midfield and front-line roles, he has put together a memorable season with Athletic Bilbao and is one of the few Spanish stars to appear among the galaxy of foreigners in the scoring charts. He has everything: skill, pace, mobility, heading ability, vision and finishing.

Whether Guerrero, at 20, can cope with World Cup football after a gruelling season in which coach Jupp Heynckes occasionally has felt obliged to rest him is just one of the many question marks against a Spanish side who could go all the way . . . or fall at the first hurdle.

Net gains . . . goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta (above right) is Spain's most capped player of all time.

Double delight . . . Julio Salinas and friends celebrate one of his two crucial goals in the World Cup victory over the Republic of Ireland in Dublin (right).

WorldCupUSA**94**

HOW THEY QUALIFIED EUROPE GROUP 3

22.04.92	**Spain** v Albania 3-0
28.04.92	Northern Ireland v Lithuania 2-2
26.05.92	Rep. of Ireland v Albania 2-0
03.06.92	Albania v Lithuania 1-0
12.08.92	Latvia v Lithuania 1-2
26.08.92	Latvia v Denmark 0-0
09.09.92	Rep. of Ireland v Latvia 4-0
09.09.92	Northern Ireland v Albania 3-0
23.09.92	Latvia v **Spain** 0-0
23.09.92	Lithuania v Denmark 0-0
14.10.92	Denmark v Rep. of Ireland 0-0
14.10.92	Northern Ireland v **Spain** 0-0
28.10.92	Lithuania v Latvia 1-1
11.11.92	Albania v Latvia 1-1
18.11.92	Northern Ireland v Denmark 0-1
18.11.92	**Spain** v Rep. of Ireland 0-0
16.12.92	**Spain** v Latvia 5-0
17.02.93	Albania v Northern Ireland 1-2
24.02.93	**Spain** v Lithuania 5-0
31.03.93	Denmark v **Spain** 1-0
31.03.93	Rep. of Ireland v N. Ireland 3-0
14.04.93	Denmark v Latvia 2-0
14.04.93	Lithuania v Albania 3-1
28.04.93	Rep. of Ireland v Denmark 1-1
28.04.93	**Spain** v Northern Ireland 3-1
15.05.93	Latvia v Albania 0-0
25.05.93	Lithuania v Northern Ireland 0-1
26.05.93	Albania v Rep. of Ireland 1-2
02.06.93	Denmark v Albania 4-0
02.06.93	Latvia v Northern Ireland 1-2
02.06.93	Lithuania v **Spain** 0-2
09.06.93	Latvia v Rep. of Ireland 0-2
16.06.93	Lithuania v Rep. of Ireland 0-1
25.08.93	Denmark v Lithuania 4-0
08.09.93	Albania v Denmark 0-1
08.09.93	Rep. of Ireland v Lithuania 2-0
08.09.93	Northern Ireland v Latvia 2-0
22.09.93	Albania v **Spain** 1-5
13.10.93	Denmark v Northern Ireland 1-0
13.10.93	Rep. of Ireland v **Spain** 1-3
17.11.93	N. Ireland v Rep. of Ireland 1-1
17.11.93	**Spain** v Denmark 1-0

1994 WORLD CUP SCHEDULE

FIRST ROUND

GROUP C

GERMANY
BOLIVIA
SPAIN
SOUTH KOREA

17.06.94	Germany v Bolivia	Chicago
17.06.94	Spain v South Korea	Dallas
21.06.94	Germany v Spain	Chicago
23.06.94	South Korea v Bolivia	Boston
27.06.94	Bolivia v Spain	Chicago
27.06.94	Germany v South Korea	Dallas

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SPAIN	12	8	3	1	27	4	19
REP IRELAND	12	7	4	1	19	6	18
Denmark	12	7	4	1	15	2	18
N. Ireland	12	5	3	4	14	13	13
Lithuania	12	2	3	7	8	21	7
Latvia	12	0	5	7	4	21	5
Albania	12	1	2	9	6	26	4

the COACH

Javier CLEMENTE. Aged 44 (born March 12, 1950). Gifted midfielder whose career with Athletic Bilbao was reduced to 47 games by injury. Coaching debut at 25 with Arenas then, after a spell with Basconia, returned to Bilbao, winning the League in 1983 and a League-and-Cup double in 1984. Reached the 1988 UEFA Cup Final in the first of two spells with Espanol, had an interlude at Atletico Madrid, then a turbulent return to Bilbao in 1990. Succeeded Vicente Miera after the 1992 Olympics.

the SQUAD

Andoni ZUBIZARRETA. Goalkeeper. Aged 32 (born October 23, 1961) with 86 caps. Barcelona. Spain's most-capped player of all time. Survived the usual pre-World Cup campaigns for Real Madrid's Paco Buyo. Simply the best.

Santiago CANIZARES. Goalkeeper. Aged 24 (born December 18, 1969) with 2 caps. Celta. Hero of the crucial qualifier against Denmark after Zubi's early dismissal. Rejected by Real, now on their shopping list.

Rafel ALKORTA. Defender. Aged 25 (born September 16, 1968) with 11 caps. Real Madrid. Strong, fast and surprisingly skilful product of Athletic Bilbao's 'youth scheme.

Salvador Gonzalez VORO. Defender. Aged 30 (born October 9, 1963) with 3 caps. La Coruna. Strong, good in the air, Picked up free last year after failing to agree new terms with Valencia.

ABELARDO Fernandez. Defender. Aged 24 (born March 19, 1970) with 7 caps (2 goals). Sporting Gijon. Key member of the Olympic side but late contender for the US squad.

Albert FERRER. Defender. Aged 24 (born June 6, 1970) with 14 caps. Barcelona. Chunky little terrier adaptable as a right-back or midfielder.

Miguel Angel NADAL (below). Defender. Aged 27 (born July 28, 1966) with 11 caps. Barcelona. Tall, strong, dependable utility player signed from Mallorca in 1991.

Fernando HIERRO. Midfielder. Aged 26 (born March 23, 1968) with 22 caps (6 goals). Real Madrid. Anchor-man who gets forward and uses long-range shooting power.

Jose Luiz Perez CAMINERO. Midfielder. Aged 26 (born November 8, 1967) with 3 caps (2 goals). Atletico Madrid. Plagued by injury since arriving from Valladolid last summer, but arguably the find of the season.

Josep GUARDIOLA. Midfielder. Aged 23 (born January 18, 1971) with 9 caps (1 goal). Barcelona. Not Clemente's ideal sort of player but adds quality, vision and distribution. Makes others tick.

Jose Maria BAKERO. Midielder. Aged 31 (born February 11, 1963) with 25 caps (7 goals). Barcelona. Road-runner, ball-winner and leader in the engine-room or up front.

Aitor "Txiki" BEGUIRISTAIN. Attack. Aged 29 (born August 12, 1964) with 18 caps (5 goals). Barcelona. Like Bakero, a Real Sociedad product. Tricky left-sided skills and quality crosses.

Julen GUERRERO. Midfielder/attack. Aged 20 (born January 7, 1974) with 7 caps (4 goals). Athletic Bilbao. Bright new star promoted to the first team by Jupp Heynckes. One to watch.

JULIO SALINAS. Attack. Aged 31 (born September 11, 1962) with 41 caps (16 goals). Barcelona. Hasn't started a game for Cruyff, but Clemente swears by him. Looks a shambles, but gets goals.

Juan Castano JUANELE. Attack. Aged 23 (born April 10, 1971) with 3 caps (1 goals). Sporting Gijon. Wayward, temperamental genius. The ideal super-sub to save lost causes.

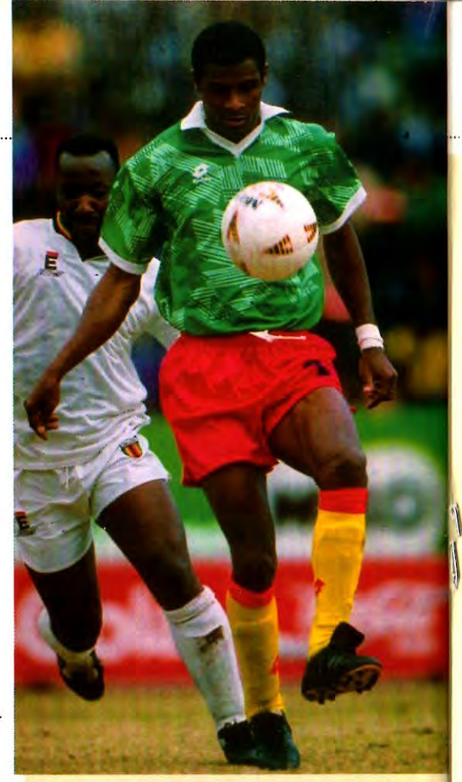
Jon Andoni GOIKOETXEA. Attack. Aged 28 (born October 21, 1965) with 19 caps. Barcelona. Left-winger at Osasuna and Real Sociedad. Under Cruyff, right-winger or wing-back.

Guillermo AMOR. Midfielder. Aged 26 (born December 4, 1967) with 16 caps (1 goals). Barcelona. Solid, hard-working, good shot.

Francisco HIGUERA. Attack. Aged 29 (born January 3, 1965) with 1 cap. Real Zaragoza. Great season. May edge out Felipe (Tenerife) and Fran (La Coruna).

THE MEN WHO MATTER

THE *WORLD SOCCER* COUNTDOWN TO THE 1994 WORLD CUP FINALS CONCLUDES WITH A LOOK AT THREE OF THE ATTACKERS HOPING TO SHOOT THEIR COUNTRIES — BRAZIL, CAMEROON AND GERMANY — TO GLORY IN THE UNITED STATES THIS SUMMER.



BEBETO

Baby face and fairy feet

BABY FACE has confounded the critics who predicted his lightweight weapons would be no match for European thuggery.

At 30, after two intense and vastly successful years in Spain, he now heads for what could be his first and last World Cup. And he is determined to make an impact.

He is well aware that his claim to be making his debut in the States is statistically incorrect. But although the name of Jose Roberto Gama de Oliveira — Bebeto — appeared in 16th place among Brazil's 22 for Italia '90, he prefers to forget his seven minutes of action after going on for Careca against Costa Rica.

A few months previously Bebeto had been voted South American Footballer of the Year and, although the Golden Boot usually is accompanied by a gilded plane ticket to Europe, there were such doubts that none of the big clubs dived in.

When two invitations finally arrived, in 1992, they bore the modest postmarks of Dortmund and La Coruna. Borussia even included Bebeto on their squad list for the 1992-93 season even though the data on his identity card fell short of giant proportions.

Born on February 16, 1964 in San Salvador de Bahia as one of eight children, it read: Height: 1.78 metres. Weight: 68 kilos. Shoe size: 36.

A prince would have to go through thousands of dressing rooms to find a footballing Cinderella with such tiny boots.

Bebeto decided to show Borussia a clean and dainty pair of heels because he felt his wife Denise would encounter fewer adaptation problems in a port on Spain's Atlantic coast than in downtown Dortmund.

Deportivo gambled on him, and he gambled on a club who had survived by the skin of their teeth in the relegation play-offs. Bebeto could hardly have rested his shoes on a better hearth.

Statistical souvenirs of his first season show that he finished as Spain's top scorer with 29 goals, and that only a 3-0 defeat in Valencia late on robbed him of a unique record of scoring against all 19 other clubs during Deportivo's surprising run to third place. More

importantly, Bebeto demonstrated that his brand of football was definitely valid in Europe.

"You play good football," he maintains, "with your head, your intelligence, your speed and your speed of thought. God has given me certain gifts and I try to put them to good use. Ball skills have to be translated into one-touch football in certain areas of the pitch."

Establishing a balanced relationship with his blunt-instrument striking partner, Claudio Barragan, Bebeto has reproduced in Spain the football which won him acclaim at Bahia (1972-76), Vitoria (1976-83), Flamengo (1983-89) and Vasco da Gama (1989-92).

"Whatever people might think," he maintains, "defenders are much more violent in Brazil than in Spain, and I feel that my physical condition has improved a lot."

But here we run into trouble. Even though he returned to peak form during the Spring, nobody will pretend that Bebeto's second season at Deportivo has been as positive as the first.

He returned to Galicia after striking five goals during Brazil's fraught and tense World Cup qualifying campaign and, looking jaded, had scored only six goals by Christmas.

At the same time, reports from Brazil — maybe too many to be pure coincidence — insisted that he wanted to leave and that the club had fallen behind with wage payments.

He slipped back home so many times that Deportivo's manager, Arsenio Iglesias, said he thought Bebeto must have a girlfriend — which did not go down too well with Denise and the two kids.

Suddenly, Bebeto seemed to get his act together, the goals started going in and Deportivo were having a very serious tilt at the title monopolised by Barcelona since 1991.

But Bebeto's place at the top of the scoring charts was being usurped by Romario, his occasional partner in Brazil's attack during the 1988 Olympic tournament and even more occasional partner ever since.

Romario, always controversial, has raised hackles by slating Bebeto and Muller and canvassing for the inclusion of his best friend, Edmundo.

Bebeto has maintained a gentlemanly "I don't mind who plays alongside me, they are all great players" response. But he is vastly more mobile than Romario, and covers far more ground during a game than the Barcelona striker.

One of the major dilemmas facing Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Parreira is whether Bebeto plus Romario equals a balanced strike force.

GRAHAM TURNER

Courage on and off the pitch

OMAM-BIYIK

FEW PEOPLE outside Cameroon could have heard of Francois Omam-Biyik before the 1990 World Cup. By the end of the tournament, he was among the players who had made a deep impression.

Now, with another World Cup just around the corner, Omam-Biyik is expected to be a key influence on his team's chances.

He has had his ups and downs over the past four years, but there is no doubt that Cameroon will rely heavily on him in the United States.

Some fine strikers have come from Cameroon in recent years. Roger Milla became the most celebrated, but Manga Onguene (African Footballer of the Year in 1980) and Ekoule Ekoule also earned their share of praise.

So too did Omam-Biyik after Italia '90, when his header beat Argentinian goalkeeper Nery Pumpido and sent the world champions to a remarkable defeat, by a team who finished with only nine men, in the tournament's first match.

He is widely remembered for that goal, but underlined his value in other ways, too, during the tournament and since.

Cameroon's run to the quarter-final in Italy, and a rather unlucky defeat by England — remember Gary Lineker's two penalties? — had a great bearing on FIFA's decision to award a third place to Africa in the current competition.

"That goal in Italy changed my life," says Omam-Biyik. "Before then I was nobody, just a footballer. Afterwards people would stop me in the street for a chat, for an autograph."

Omam-Biyik has played largely in France in recent seasons, with Laval, Cannes, Marseille (briefly) and now with Lens. His club form has tended towards the erratic, but when he is at his best he is a danger to anybody.

He proved this during the qualifying campaign for US '94, putting two goals past Zimbabwe's Bruce Grobbelaar in the decisive final game.

Scoring had come naturally to him ever since he and his brother Kana began their career with their local club, Pouma,before progressing to Canon Yaounde and then to Europe.

Now, nearly 28, he should be at the peak of his career.

He has learned a lot in Europe, and is still a robust performer off the field, as his celebrated argument with Milla exemplified.

Before the 1990 tournament, Omam-Biyik insisted that the Russian Valeri Nepomniachi, who was coaching the Cameroon squad, had been wrong to include the veteran Milla, then 38, or 39, or 40, or something else.

Milla argued just as forcefully that he deserved to be in, and went on to prove it with his remarkable performances. But although Francois picked the wrong argument that time, he showed considerable courage in going against mass thinking and standing up for himself.

In some countries this clash of personalties would have been deemed a scandal. In Africa, sworn enemies frequently hug each other, drink together, and have been known to eat from the same plate.

So there were no grudges between "old man" Roger and the younger Francois.

Now, four years on, Omam-Biyik — with brother Kana right behind him — leads his nation into another global campaign. Millions of people, in Africa and outside, will be wishing him well.

OMOSEYE BOLAJI

JURGEN **KLINSMANN**

THE enterprising career of Germany's top striker, Jurgen Klinsmann, will take another significant turn after the World Cup.

He has told his French club, Monaco, that he is leaving and so the 29-year-old blond, bustling Klinsmann will be seen in new colours before long. Offers from Sampdoria of Italy and from Spanish clubs are being studied, but he has no intention of returning to Germany.

His country have come to rely on him more and more since Rudi Voller left the international scene. Karlheinz Riedle has lost form and confidence and there have been too many inconsistent displays by other candidates, such as Ulf Kirsten, Andreas Thom and Stefan Kuntz.

Klinsmann has improved since erratic performances during the second half of last year, when he was severely criticised in the media. And he proved in the recent brilliant win over Italy, with both goals, that he is still singing that same old scoring song. Now he is saddled with the responsibility of getting the goals to help the world champions retain their title.

Jurgen Klinsmann, born in July 1964 in Goppingen, was a gymnast who also played volleyball.

He began his junior soccer career with local amateur clubs, TB Gingen and then SC Geislingen, before moving to Stuttgarter Kickers in 1978.

He signed for the then champions, Stuttgart, in 1978 and three years later he earned his first cap, against Brazil. Six months on he became top scorer in the Bundesliga and Footballer of the Year.

In 1989 he was snapped up by Internazionale for £1.3million — the fee was written into his contract — and he pocketed the same amount.

Not bad for a boy who trained as a baker in his father's business, but so learned to be independent and never needed agents or middlemen to conduct his professional affairs.

Klinsmann was one of Germany's brightest stars in the victorious World Cup 1990 in Italy. He was left to fend for himself, but chased every ball, harassing the

Singing that same old song

defenders and always remaining alert for half a chance.

But after two years in Milan and the triumph in the UEFA Cup, his first international club trophy, he contemplated giving up football — at 26!

"There are other things in life besides sport," he said at the time.

Klinsmann wanted to get away from the pressure-cooker atmosphere of *calcio*, with its constant media attention and industrious reporters scrutinising every move, ready to pounce.

As an ecologist who admits to an affinity with the Green Party, Klinsmann is concerned about the environment and worried about rising crime among the young. He has talked about trekking in America with a rucksack and training shoes.

But he shelved these plans and in 1992 he decided a move to another country, another life-style. Real Madrid seemed to be interested, but stalled. Then several French clubs made serious bids, and Klinsmann plumped for Monaco, situated on the luxurious Riviera, but a haven as a football club, with small, mostly polite crowds and no hassle from the media.

Now he wants to leave all that relative tranquillity behind and return to the glare of spotlights, big enthusiastic audiences and superstar treatment.

"I like change, variety and mixing with different people and cultures," he says, explaining his itchy feet. "I love to travel, to experience the unfamiliar and the unexpected."

That is why he is unlikely to remain with a new club longer than a year, or two at the most. There should be no shortage of offers: Klinsmann's pace, control and finishing stamp him as one of the outstanding attackers in the world.

The more immediate challenge is US '94. Klinsmann has played for Germany 57 times, but still gets the same thrill whenever he puts on the shirt with the black eagle.

As for Germany's chances to repeat the 1990 victory, he says: "We have a very good, disciplined team with highly experienced and technically superb players. This is a great opportunity for us to succeed."

This World Cup will be Jurgen Klinsmann's last, and he is determined to go out on a triumphant note.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

SWEDEN

Running out of steam

Will Svensson find some more power for his roller?

BY PENTTI HIETANEN

Three of Sweden's key men . . . coach Tommy Svensson (left), Martin Dahlin (above) and Tomas Brolin (right).

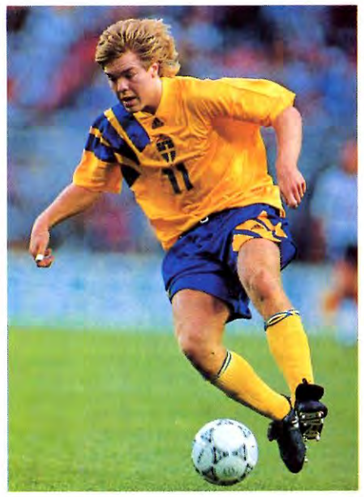
SWEDEN reached US '94 with a combination of consistency and strength, helped by French failings in the home stretch.

Israel's unexpected victory in Paris set up the Swedes for the run-in, and a home win over Finland and a draw in Austria enabled them to finish first, with a point to spare and the best goal difference as well.

Sweden were beaten only in one qualifying match, by France. They never flagged but hardly ever shone, either. Their achievement is further proof of coach Tommy Svensson's manipulative skills, which he had demonstrated during the European Championship finals of 1992.

Sweden ploughed through with typical commitment and tactical discipline, their self-belief strengthened by three wins in their first three matches. They opened with a far-from-convincing 1-0 victory in Finland, thanks to a disputed penalty from Klas Ingesson. After that, the team, astutely guided by that ever-calculating poker-face, Svensson, raised their game to beat Bulgaria 2-0 at home and Israel 3-1 away.

The steamroller had now gathered momentum, and apart from that brief halt in Paris, was not to be stopped.



True, in the final matches Svensson had to combat numerous injuries, and cope without experienced players such as Tomas Brolin, Johnny Ekstrom and Stefan Pettersson, who decided to drop out.

The Brolin case has bedevilled Svensson for months. Brolin, the former wunderkind of Swedish soccer and still arguably their finest forward, claimed to have lost his appetite for playing in the national colours, having fallen out with the local media.

Now he is back, with a goal against Wales in a recent 2-0 friendly victory, emphasising his finishing skill. Presumably diplomacy prevailed in the end.

Without Brolin, what is there left in the kitty? Plenty, one could maintain, because Brolin was not Sweden's hottest act in the qualifiers. Martin Dahlin was. He scored seven goals and at times seemed to be carrying the team with his zest for hard work.

Dahlin is a real handful, having added composure to his rough-edged style, and cannot be hustled out of the game.

Svensson's main dilemma now is the lack of pace in defence and midfield.

Alarmingly, only Roland Nilsson and Joachim Bjorklund cannot be blamed for being rather heavy-booted in defence.

The Swedes make up for that with their collective style and shrewd covering — the accent is very much on team-work — but a mere mention of someone such as Costa Rica's Hernan Medford, whose speed upset Olle Nordin's side in the 1990 World Cup, is certain to spoil the relish in Svensson's hot-dogs.

But the coach tackles problems in a quiet, businesslike manner. Tactically, trust will be put in the 4-4-2 system, with zonal marking.

The style is not coruscating, but Sweden's success owes so much to it. They know that they are always hard to break down if only their midfield net is sufficiently tight. The defence will be solid and full of tactical wisdom.

'The image is of a dour, physical side with somewhat rudimentary tactics'

Experience is imperative, and goalkeeper Thomas Ravelli has it in abundance. There are three centre-backs, Jan Eriksson, Patrik Andersson and Joachim Bjorklund, seeking places. Eriksson is the best in the air, Andersson the strongest on the ball, Bjorklund the fastest.

The main midfield warriors are Jonas Thern, if he stays fit, and Stefan Schwarz, especially now that Par Zetterlund is out with a knee injury. With the inclusion of starlets such as Henrik Larsson and Mats Lilienberg, Sweden hope to attain a more youthful look in attack.

The image of a dour, physical machine with somewhat rudimentary tactics bothers Svensson. Tampering with the basic pattern would be a gamble, but he knows that players such as Brolin, or even Anders Limpar, are needed to provide that extra something. Not for cosmetic reasons, but because of the danger of becoming stale and predictable.

Svensson has considerable experience of summoning a group of players from all over Europe and making them operate as a team. The problem is that players moving abroad after the domestic season, which ranges from April to November, often struggle to gain places with their new clubs. This has been the case with last season's comets, Henrik Larsson and Lilienberg.

Sweden's first-round group looks tough, but getting through to the second phase is not an impossible task. Only Brazil seem to erect an unbreakable barrier for the Vikings: after five World Cup encounters — including the 1958 Final — Sweden are still looking for their first win.

1994 WORLD CUP SCHEDULE

FIRST ROUND

GROUP B

BRAZIL
RUSSIA
CAMEROON
SWEDEN

19.06.94	Cameroon v Sweden	Los Angeles
20.06.94	Brazil v Russia	San Francisco
24.06.94	Brazil v Cameroon	San Francisco
24.06.94	Sweden v Russia	Detroit
28.06.94	Russia v Cameroon	San Francisco
28.06.94	Brazil v Sweden	Detroit

HOW THEY QUALIFIED
EUROPE
GROUP 6

14.05.92	Finland v Bulgaria	0-3
09.09.92	Bulgaria v France	2-0
09.09.92	Finland v **Sweden**	0-1
07.10.92	**Sweden** v Bulgaria	2-0
14.10.92	France v Austria	2-0
28.10.92	Austria v Israel	5-2
11.11.92	Israel v **Sweden**	1-3
14.11.92	France v Finland	2-1
02.12.92	Israel v Bulgaria	0-2
17.02.93	Israel v France	0-4
27.03.93	Austria v France	0-1
14.04.93	Austria v Bulgaria	3-1
28.04.93	France v **Sweden**	2-1
28.04.93	Bulgaria v Finland	2-0
12.05.93	Bulgaria v Israel	2-2
13.05.93	Finland v Austria	3-1
19.05.93	**Sweden** v Austria	1-0
02.06.93	**Sweden** v Israel	5-0
16.06.93	Finland v Israel	0-0
22.08.93	**Sweden** v France	1-1
25.08.93	Austria v Finland	3-0
08.09.93	Finland v France	0-2
08.09.93	Bulgaria v **Sweden**	1-1
13.10.93	France v Israel	2-3
13.10.93	Bulgaria v Austria	4-1
13.10.93	**Sweden** v Finland	3-2
27.10.93	Israel v Austria	1-1
10.11.93	Austria v **Sweden**	1-1
10.11.93	Israel v Finland	1-3
17.11.93	France v Bulgaria	1-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SWEDEN	10	6	3	1	19	8	15
BULGARIA	10	6	2	2	19	10	14
France	10	6	1	3	17	10	13
Austria	10	3	2	5	15	16	8
Finland	10	2	1	7	9	18	5
Israel	10	1	3	6	10	27	5

the COACH

TOMMY Svensson. Aged 49 (born March 4, 1945). Former midfielder with Osters IF. Won 40 caps for Sweden and was Footballer of the Year in 1969. Played for Standard Liege (1971-73) before becoming manager at Oster. After coaching Third Division Alvesta and Norway's Tromso he was put in charge of Sweden's national team at the start of 1991, following Olle Nordin.

the SQUAD

Thomas RAVELLI. Goalkeeper. Aged 34 (born August 13, 1959) with 106 caps. IFK Gothenburg. One of the longest-serving players in the World Cup, and set to break Bjorn Nordquist's national record of 115 appearances. Joined Gothenburg from Oster in 1989. Athletic and safe, noted for his ability to whip up the devil in his defence. Father came from Austria, twin brother was an international defender.

Lars (Lasse) ERIKSSON. Goalkeeper. Aged 28 (born September 21, 1965) with 13 caps. IFK Norrkoping. Ravelli's perennial reserve. Formerly with Hammarby.

Roland NILSSON. Defender. Aged 30 (born November 27, 1963) with 58 caps. Sheffield Wednesday (Eng)/Helsingborg IF. Back to his first club, from Sheffield Wednesday. Also played for IFK Gothenburg, winning the UEFA Cup in 1987. A classy right-back, one of the best in Europe.

Jan ERIKSSON. Defender. Aged 26 (born August 24, 1967) with 30 caps (4 goals). Kaiserslautern (Ger). A sturdy stopper, recently linked with Everton. IFK Sundsvall, AIK Stockholm and Norrkoping.

Patrik ANDERSSON. Defender. Aged 22 (born August 18, 1971) with 18 caps. Borussia Monchengladbach (Ger). Moved to the Bundesliga after failing to establish himself with Blackburn Rovers in England. Was produced by Malmo, where his father also played.

Joachim BJORKLUND. Defender. Aged 23 (born March 15, 1971) with 18 caps. IFK Gothenburg. Left-back in the 1992 European Championship. Joined IFK from Norway's Brann, but his debut season was marred by a knee injury. Coach Svensson is his uncle, and his father Kalle was an international.

Roger LJUNG. Defender. Aged 28 (born January 8, 1966) with 44 caps. Galatasaray (Tur). Left-back or a stopper, recently signed from Austria's Admira Wacker. Was Malmo's captain in 1989 when he left to play for Switzerland's Young Boys and FC Zurich.

Stefan SCHWARZ. Midfield. Aged 24 (born May 18, 1969) with 26 caps (2 goals). Benfica (Por). Signed from Malmo after the 1990 World Cup. Works like a beaver and packs a scorching left-footed shot, but needs to curb the rough side of his game.

Jonas THERN. Midfield. Aged 27 (born March 20, 1967) with 42 caps (5 goals). Napoli (Ita). Talented all-rounder, sadly prone to injuries. Benfica bought him from Malmo in 1989. Moved to Napoli after captaining Sweden to the semi-finals of Euro '92.

Hakan MILD. Midfield. Aged 23 (born June 14, 1971) with 11 caps (3 goals). Servette (Swi). Signed recently from IFK Gothenburg. A tireless runner, ideal for midfield pressing tactics.

Stefan REHN. Midfield. Aged 27 (born September 22, 1966) with 37 caps (6 goals). IFK Gothenburg. Former Everton misfit, now probably the finest player in Sweden. Made his name in Stockholm with Djurgarden.

Anders LIMPAR. Midfield. Aged 28 (born September 24, 1965) with 47 caps (4 goals). Everton (Eng). Recent buy from Arsenal, where he starred during their title-winning season of 1990-91. Also played in Switzerland (Young Boys) and Italy (Cremonese). Enigmatic, but a dazzling dribbler on his day.

Klas INGESSON. Midfield. Aged 25 (born August 20, 1968) with 38 caps (9 goals). PSV Eindhoven (Hol). Powerful wide midfielder, who was a scoring sensation with IFK Gothenburg in 1989. Moved from Belgium's Mechelen last summer.

Jan JANSSON. Midfield. Aged 26 (born January 16, 1968) with 7 caps. IFK Norrkoping. Like brother Ulrik, made his name at Oster. Talented, but has yet to convince coach Svensson.

Henrik LARSSON. Attack. Aged 22 (born September 20, 1971) with 5 caps (3 goals). Feyenoord (Hol). Former top scorer with Helsingborg. Good close control, sharp in the box.

Martin DAHLIN. Attack. Aged 26 (born April 16, 1968) with 23 caps (15 goals). Borussia Monchengladbach (Ger). Sweden's current Footballer of the Year, who shot to stardom with Malmo. Fearless, plenty of power, but must be careful to avoid injuries — and yellow cards.

Kennet ANDERSSON. Attack. Aged 26 (born October 6, 1967) with 21 caps (11 goals). Lille (Fra). Former IFK Gothenburg striker whose career was nearly halted by contractual problems with Mechelen. Big target man in the British mould.

Mats LILIENBERG. Attack. Aged 24 (born December 22, 1969) with 3 caps (1 goal). TSV 1860 Munich (Ger). Sweden's joint top scorer last year, at Trelleborg. Quick and industrious.

Tomas BROLIN. Attack. Aged 24 (born November 29, 1969) with 27 caps (16 goals). Parma (Ita). Scored against Brazil in the 1990 World Cup, and three times in the 1992 European Championship. Now often used in a withdrawn midfield role at Parma. Formerly with GIF Sundsvall and Norrkoping.

WorldCupUSA94

SWITZERLAND

Acceptable at last

Hodgson heads a best-ever squad

BY ARTHUR ROTMIL

WHILE British football has been suffering from the periodically self-inflicted crisis of confidence, and all four home countries failed to quality for the World Cup finals, at least one Englishman has been acclaimed a hero in Switzerland.

Roy Hodgson is now 46 and largely unknown in his own country, but he was a highly-successful club coach in Sweden, and has taken the Swiss national side to their first major finals for 28 years.

Ten managers had tried to repeat the 1966 achievement, but without success, and some experts suggest that the German, Uli Stielike, had laid the foundations for the current victorious squad. Others point to the undisputed fact that Switzerland have been lucky to discover four or five top-class players of the same generation, who form the backbone of their side.

There are the forwards Stephane Chapuisat, Adrian Knup and Alain Sutter, plus the all-rounder Ciriaco Sforza, who are all improving in the highly-demanding German Bundesliga.

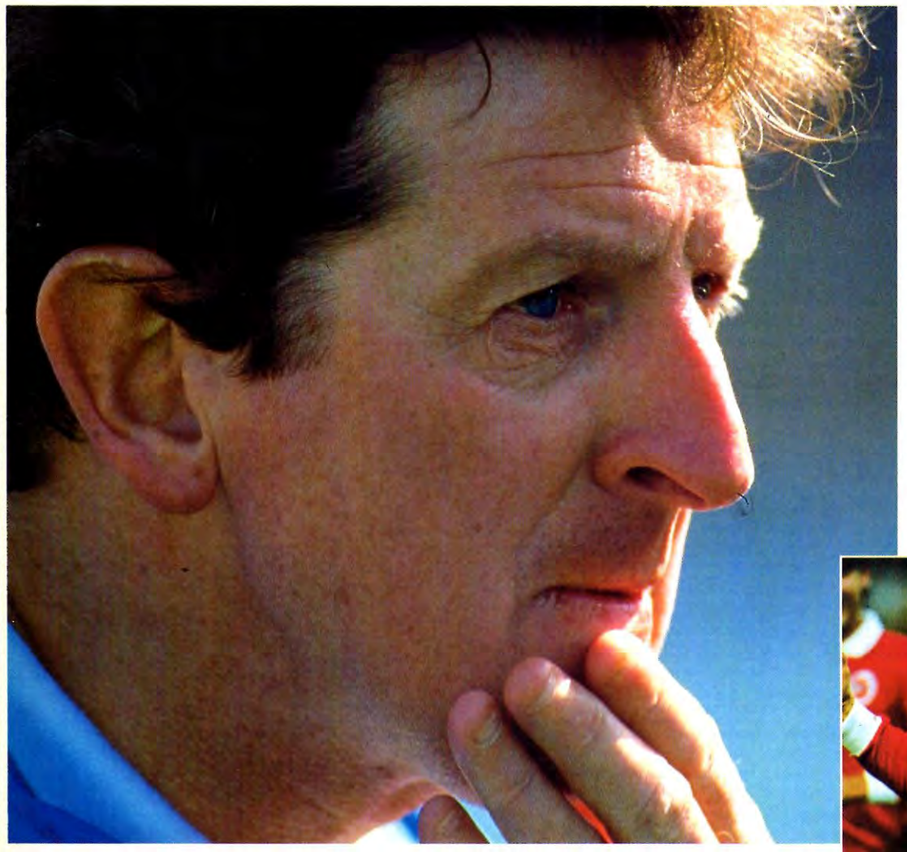
A coach, they say, is only as good as his players, But Hodgson has largely eradicated that inferiority complex which for many years blighted Swiss sportsmen. Professional footballers in that country are still held in low esteem socially, and it is only now, going to the World Cup, that they are experiencing some measure of acceptance.

Most of the former national managers struggled against the defeatist attitude and with the problem of dealing with a multi-racial and multi-lingual squad.

There are regional jealousies and conflicts of mentality. The French and Italians prefer a more refined technical game, while the Germans place the accent on physical commitment. Swiss managers invariably have been accused of favouritism, depending on which part of the country they came from.

Interestingly, though, five members of the current squad are not even of Swiss origin, but naturalised. Hodgson as a "neutral" benefits from the situation, having always remained impartial. He also has kept faith with his players, so that nine or 10 positions in his side are firmly fixed.

The team have become mentally stronger and have saved matches when their predecessors would have caved in. They are better organised and understand the system, and this has brought much-needed stability, especially at the back. The successful run — only one defeat in 16 matches — and the fact that in 10 World Cup qualifying ties they scored 23 goals, more than any of their rivals including group winners Italy, made the Swiss squad the talk of Europe.



Veteran Young Boy . . . Bregy is now 36.

The highlights of the qualifying campaign were the matches against the Italians. The Swiss took three points off the former world champions, but it should have been four.

In Cagliari, Switzerland led 2-0 seven minutes from time, but two scrappy goals saved the Italians from humiliation.

The Swiss gained 60 per cent of away points in this section, providing further evidence of their general improvement.

Tactically the Swiss favour a 1-3-4-2 system with a libero at the back, four men in midfield and two strikers.

Veteran Alain Geiger's experience of 90-plus internationals is invaluable in organising the defence.

Midfield orchestrator Georges Bregy, at 36 the senior member of the team, is lethal from free-kicks and combines well with the ubiquitous Sforza, whose all-round technique is unsurpassed.

Up front, Chapuisat has become a hit in Germany with his scoring consistency and the knack of snapping up vital goals.

The Swiss are fairly confident, having been drawn in a group with US, Colombia and Romania. Hodgson says:

"We're lucky with the opposition, venues and climatic conditions. It's now up to the players to make the most of this unique opportunity to prove themselves at the highest level."

One can only hope that the optimism is not misplaced, but certainly all signs point to the conclusion that this team will not be overawed, even by the best. This is undoubtedly the most experienced side Switzerland have ever fielded in any major competition.

'The coach has kept faith with his players, so that nine or ten positions in his side are already firmly fixed'

Knup goes up . . . a remarkable strike rate.

1994 WORLD CUP SCHEDULE

FIRST ROUND

GROUP A

UNITED STATES
SWITZERLAND
COLOMBIA
ROMANIA

18.06.94	US v Switzerland	Detroit
18.06.94	Colombia v Romania	Los Angeles
22.06.94	Romania v Switzerland	Detroit
22.06.94	US v Colombia	Los Angeles
26.06.94	US v Romania	Los Angeles
26.06.94	Switzerland v Colombia	San Francisco

HOW THEY QUALIFIED
EUROPE
GROUP 1

16.08.92	Estonia v **Switzerland**	0-6
09.09.92	**Switzerland** v Scotland	3-1
14.10.92	Italy v **Switzerland**	2-2
14.10.92	Scotland v Portugal	0-0
25.10.92	Malta v Estonia	0-0
18.11.92	Scotland v Italy	0-0
18.11.92	**Switzerland** v Malta	3-0
19.12.92	Malta v Italy	1-2
24.01.93	Malta v Portugal	0-1
17.02.93	Scotland v Malta	3-0
24.02.93	Portugal v Italy	1-3
24.03.93	Italy v Malta	6-1
31.03.93	**Switzerland** v Portugal	1-1
14.04.93	Italy v Estonia	2-0
17.04.93	Malta v **Switzerland**	0-2
28.04.93	Portugal v Scotland	5-0
01.05.93	**Switzerland** v Italy	1-0
12.05.93	Estonia v Malta	0-1
19.05.93	Estonia v Scotland	0-3
02.06.93	Scotland v Estonia	3-1
19.06.93	Portugal v Malta	4-0
05.09.93	Estonia v Portugal	0-2
08.09.93	Scotland v **Switzerland**	1-1
22.09.93	Estonia v Italy	0-3
13.10.93	Portugal v **Switzerland**	1-0
13.10.93	Italy v Scotland	3-1
10.11.93	Portugal v Estonia	3-0
17.11.93	Italy v Portugal	1-0
17.11.93	Malta v Scotland	0-2
17.11.93	**Switzerland** v Estonia	4-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ITALY	10	7	2	1	22	7	16
SWITZERLAND	10	6	3	1	23	6	15
Portugal	10	6	2	2	18	5	14
Scotland	10	4	3	3	14	13	11
Malta	10	1	1	8	3	23	3
Estonia	10	0	1	9	1	27	1

the COACH

Roy HODGSON. Aged 46 (born August 9, 1947). An Englishman barely known in his own country, having failed to break through as a player, with Crystal Palace, Maidstone and in South Africa, or a manager, at Bristol City. Made his name as coach in Sweden with Halmstad, Orebro and Malmo, then moved to Switzerland's Xamax Neuchatel. National team manager since January 1, 1992.

the SQUAD

Marco PASCOLO. Goalkeeper. Aged 28 (born May 9, 1966) with 15 caps. Servette. Undisputed No. 1, played under Hodgson at Neuchatel before moving to Servette three years ago.

Joel CORMINBOEUF. Goalkeeper. Aged 30 (born March 16, 1964) with six caps. Racing Strasbourg (Fra). A long injury lay-off upset his career at Neuchatel. Now in top form in France.

Dominque HERR. Defender. Aged 28 (born October 25, 1965) with 35 caps (three goals). Sion. Hard-tackling stopper, strong in the air. Previously with Basle and Lausanne.

Alain GEIGER. Defender. Aged 33 (born November 5, 1960) with 90 caps (two goals). Sion. Experienced and versatile, able to slot in at full-back, in midfield, or as libero. Spells with Servette and St Etienne in France.

Mark HOTTIGER. Defender. Aged 26 (born November 7, 1967) with 36 caps (three goals). Sion. Sturdy, reliable, with pace, and not afraid to initiate penetrating runs on the flank.

Yvan QUENTIN. Defender. Aged 24 (born May 2, 1970) with 10 caps. Sion. Often-criticised utility defender who sometimes lacks concentration and becomes prone to errors.

Andy EGLI. Defender. Aged 36 (born May 8, 1958), with 74 caps (eight goals). Servette. Commanding all-rounder who made an unexpected comeback at veteran age, following a lengthy injury.

Beat STUDER. Defender. Aged 25 (born November 25, 1968) with two caps. FC Zurich. A pacy newcomer who earned his first cap v US in January.

Georges BREGY. Midfielder. Aged 36 (born January 17, 1958) with 46 caps (10 goals). Young Boys. Another "oldie" who looks back on over 400 matches, having started his first-class career with Sion. Once a striker, still prolific from free-kicks and penalties.

Christophe OHREL. Midfielder. aged 26 (born April 7, 1968) with 24 caps (four goals). Servette. Came from Lausanne in 1992, a year after making his international debut.

Sebastian FOURNIER. Midfielder. aged 22 (born June 16, 1971) with three caps (one goal). Sion. A real find who celebrated his debut v US in January with a goal in a 1-1 draw.

Beat SUTTER. Midfielder. Aged 31 (born December 12, 1962) with 61 caps (13 goals). Neuchatel Xamax. Began with Basle, now eight years at Neuchatel, title winners in 1987 and 1988. First capped 11 years ago.

Thomas BICKEL. Midfielder. Aged 30 (born October 6, 1963) with 38 caps(three goals). Grasshopper. Experienced schemer who suffered from financial and psychological problems and "retired" from the national side a year ago. Answered another call once World Cup qualification seemed likely.

Alain SUTTER. Midfielder. Aged 26 (born January 22, 1968) with 42 caps (three goals). Nurnberg (Ger). Began his professional career with Young Boys, then became top scorer at Grasshopper. Made a successful transition to the tough German league.

Ciriaco SFORZA. Midfielder. Aged 24 (born March 2, 1970) with 19 caps (three goals). Kaiserslautern (Ger). Of Italian origin, naturalised in 1990, made his name with Grasshopper. Recently re-applied for Italian nationality.

Christophe BONVIN. Midfielder. Aged 29 (born April 14, 1965)with 35 caps (eight goals). Sion. In his second spell after serving Neuchatel.

Stephane CHAPUISAT (above). Attack. Aged 24 (born June 28, 1969) with 32 caps (9 goals). Borussia Dortmund (Ger). Son of a former international, came to the fore as Lausanne's leading scorer for three seasons. Moved to Bayer Uerdingen, then Dortmund.

Adrian KNUP. Attack. Aged 25 (born July 2, 1968) with 31 caps (21 goals). VfB Stuttgart (Ger). His remarkable strike rate in internationals persuaded the then German champions to sign him.

Kubilay TURKYILMAZ. Attack. Aged 27 (born March 4, 1967) with 39 caps (15 goals). Galatasaray (Tur). A great opportunist. Of Turkish origin, naturalised in 1989. Returned to his roots after playing for Bellinzona, Servette and Bologna (Italy).

UNITED STATES

A limited ambition

Round two or bust for Bora

BY PAUL GARDNER

THROUGHOUT the 64-year history of the World Cup finals, all the host teams have gone through to the second round.

Realistically, that is the aim of the US: to survive the first-round games against Romania, Colombia and Switzerland. Anything beyond that will be considered a huge bonus. Anything less, will mean that three years of careful planning have failed.

After the disaster of the USA's 1990 World Cup venture in Italy (three defeats, nine goals and three penalties conceded), the USSF realised — somewhat slowly — that a more professional approach was needed. So Bora Milutinovic, a coach with considerable World Cup experience, was hired in 1991. But where were the professional players to come from?

There is no major pro league in the US. Promising young players attend college and are then forced to try their luck overseas if they wish to make soccer a career. The USSF's answer to this problem was to create a permanent training site and hostel for the national team, and to sign, and pay, their players.

That arrangement has allowed Milutinovic constant access to about 20 players lodged at the Mission Viejo site in California. A small number of players — arguably the best — continue to play with overseas clubs.

Since 1991, the US national team have played 80 games, with a record of 26 wins, 29 defeats and 25 draws, but assessing the results poses another problem. The blessing of automatic qualification is greatly lessened by the absence of hard, do-or-die qualifying games. Most of the team's games have been nothing more than training exercises, but Milutinovic is quick to point out that whenever he has been able to field the players from overseas, the results have been promising — including wins over England, the Republic of Ireland, Mexico and Portugal.

Milutinovic also has had to deal with an awkward rivalry between two groups, with the Mission Viejo players claiming that, as they have played most of the games, the overseas players should not expect to return for the World Cup and automatically claim places on the team.

But harsh reality suggests that starting places must go to the "foreign legion": Tab Ramos (playing in Spain), John Harkes and Roy Wegerle (England), Cle Kooiman (Mexico), Eric Wynalda (Germany), and Ernie Stewart (Holland). Most of the Americans at Mission Viejo are youngsters, fresh from college soccer, which has proved a totally inadequate preparation for the international game.

Reality also has meant a willingness to use naturalised Americans, with Wegerle (born in South Africa), Stewart (Holland), and Thomas Dooley (Germany) the prime examples.

The 33-year-old Dooley has become the key player on the squad. He was enticed away from the Bundesliga and joined the USSF squad in Mission Viejo last year. He has proved a dynamic midfielder, and a solid, reliable defender. Where to play him? Probably in defence, where the team have been having most problems. Not in goal, where Tony Meola has conquered most of his critics and turned into a solid keeper, particularly good against breakaways. The surprise has been Milutinovic's lack of interest in Kasey Keller, a regular starter for Millwall in the English First Division.

The defensive problems were not helped by a serious knee injury in April 1993 to Marcelo Balboa. Various combinations of Mike Lapper, Desmond Armstrong and Alexi Lalas have been tried, none of them wildly successful.

Another complication has arisen because of Milutinovic's insistence on playing with a flat back four, and employing the offside trap. The ploy has broken down so many times that a return to the use of a sweeper seems advisable. Dooley could fill that role, with Kooiman and Balboa as marking backs in front of him.

At right-back, Milutinovic seems hooked on Lalas — inexplicably, given his poor performances. Harkes is a candidate for this position, which is really a midfield role anyway. Left-back? Agoos or Caligiuri are the candidates.

Midfielders are plentiful. Playmakers (despite Milutinovic's insistence that he has six of them) are not. The left-footed Perez is the most likely candidate, but suffers alarming reversals of form.

> **'Most of the team's games have been mere training exercises'**

Harkes, with his non-stop energy, should be a dominating midfield force. Creativity also can be expected from Ramos. If Wegerle recovers from knee surgery, he is a certainty as an attacking midfielder. Cobi Jones functions best from midfield, using his explosive speed to break through on the flanks.

Milutinovic uses only one out-and-out forward — Stewart, the ideal man for the lonely running entailed, capable of seizing scoring chances. Support for Stewart comes from Wynalda, a withdrawn forward whose strength and persistence make him a constant threat to defenders.

Will there be a place for midfielder Claudio Reyna? He was a member of the 1992 Olympic team in Spain, and received an offer from Barcelona, which he turned down to continue at the University of Virginia. At 20, he is the youngest member of the national team, and has been used by Milutinovic as a second-half substitute. But his appearances have drawn rave reviews, and a general acknowledgement that he is an exceptionally skilled player.

Bora's boys . . . US coach Bora Milutinovic (above) flanked by John Harkes and Roy Wegerle.

The Jones boy . . . speedy US striker Cobi Jones (left).

1994 WORLD CUP SCHEDULE

FIRST ROUND

GROUP A

UNITED STATES
SWITZERLAND
COLOMBIA
ROMANIA

18.06.94	US v Switzerland	Detroit
18.06.94	Colombia v Romania	Los Angeles
22.06.94	Romania v Switzerland	Detroit
22.06.94	US v Colombia	Los Angeles
26.06.94	US v Romania	Los Angeles
26.06.94	Switzerland v Colombia	San Francisco

the COACH

Bora MILUTINOVIC. Aged 49 (born September 7, 1944). Named coach in March 1991. One of three Serbian brothers who played for Partizan Belgrade in the 1960s. A midfielder, he also played in France and Switzerland, before moving to Mexico in 1972; played for, and later coached, UNAM. Coached Mexico in 1986 World Cup. Four years later led unfancied Costa Rica into the second round.

the SQUAD

Tony MEOLA. Goalkeeper. Aged 25 (born February 21, 1969) with 80 caps. USSF. A top baseball prospect, but chose soccer. Played all three games for the US in the 1990 World Cup in Italy, then had short spell in England with Brighton.

Brad FRIEDEL. Goalkeeper. Aged 23 (born May 18, 1971) with 21 caps. USSF. A member of UCLA's 1990 national championship team. Played in the US team who won gold in the 1991 Pan-American games, and for 1992 Olympic team.

Desmond ARMSTRONG. Defender. Aged 29 (born November 2, 1964) with 82 caps. USSF. Veteran of 1990 World Cup team, also had a spell with Santos in Brazil. Prefers to play as a sweeper.

Marcelo BALBOA. Defender. Aged 26 (born August 8, 1967) with 82 caps. USSF. Born in US of Argentinian parents. Had two seasons at San Diego State University before turning pro. Played all three games in 1990 World Cup.

Paul CALIGIURI. Defender. Aged 30 (born March 9, 1964) with 76 caps. USSF. Scored the USA's goal against Trinidad in 1989 that qualified the US for Ita;lia '90.

Fernando CLAVIJO. Defender. Aged 37 (born January 23, 1957) with 55 caps. USSF. Uruguayan-born, oldest player in the squad, but a fitness perfectionist. Uses his tactical astuteness to cover for failing speed.

Thomas DOOLEY (left). Defender. Aged 33 (born May 12, 1961) with 31 caps. USSF. Born in Germany of an American father. Helped Kaiserslautern win the1991 Bundesliga. Naturalized as American citizen in 1992. The team's key player, as either defender or midfielder.

Cle KOOIMAN. Defender. Aged 31 (born July 3, 1963) with 10 caps. Cruz Azul (Mex). Californian with experience in the Mexican First Division since 1990. Solid stopper.

Alexi LALAS. Defender. Aged 24 (born June 1, 1970) with 38 caps. USSF. Won top honours during college career at Rutgers University, but has struggled at international level.

John HARKES. Midfielder. Aged 27 (born March 8, 1967) with 49 caps. Derby County (Eng). Starter for the US 1990 World Cup team. Held down a starting position with Sheffield Wednesday in the English Premier League, played for them in 1993 Cup final at Wembley. Tenacious, tough-tackling, non-stop midfielder with powerful shot.

Chris HENDERSON. Midfielder. Aged 23 (born December 11, 1970) with 65 caps. USSF. Won a national championship with UCLA in 1990. Member of US 1990 World Cup team, at age 19 the youngest player in the tournament. Speedy flank player, high work-rate.

Dominic KINNEAR. Midfielder. Aged 26 (born July 26, 1967) with 50 caps. USSF. Scottish-born, turned pro to play with San Francisco in 1989-90. Debut for the US in 1990. Attacking midfielder.

Joe-Max MOORE. Midfielder. Aged 23 (born February 23, 1971) with 31 caps. USSF. Attended high school in Mission Viejo, where he now trains with the national team. After three years at UCLA (1990-92), signed with the USSF as a pro in 1992, and made debut with national team the same year. Free kick specialist.

Hugo PEREZ. Midfielder. Aged 30 (born November 8, 1963) with 69 caps. USSF. Arrived in the US at age 11 from his native El Salvador. Signed pro contract at age 16 with LA Aztecs. Member of 1984 Olympic team. Has played in France with Red Star Paris, and in Saudi Arabia. Left-footed playmaker, the team's most creative player, but injuries are a problem.

Tab RAMOS. Midfielder. Aged 27 (born September 21, 1966) with 47 caps. Real Betis (Spa). Uruguayan-born, came to the US as an 12-year-old. Member of US team in 1983 Under-20 World Cup finals in Mexico. Played in all three US games at Italia '90, then moved to Spain, firstly with Figueras, then with Real Betis.

Claudio REYNA. Midfielder. Aged 20 (born July 20, 1973) with 8 caps. USSF. Youngest member of the squad, potentially the most talented. Born in US of Argentinian parents. Led Virginia University to national titles in each of his three years there. Member of 1992 Olympic team. Joined national team squad in January 1994.

Roy WEGERLE. Midfielder. Aged 30 (born March 19, 1964) with 14 caps. Coventry City (Eng). Born in South Africa, attended college at University of South Florida, turned pro with Tampa Bay Rowdies. Moved to England in 1986, where his clubs have included Chelsea, Luton Town, QPRs, Blackburn and Coventry. Highly skilled ball-artist, tricky dribbler, and goal-scorer.

Cobi JONES. Attack. Aged 24 (born June 16, 1970) with 42 caps. USSF. Californian who attended UCLA. Member of 1992 US Olympic team, made his debut for the national team later that year. Plays wide on either flank, where he has great speed.

Ernie STEWART. Attack. Aged 25 (born March 28, 1969) with 14 caps. Willem II (Hol). Born in Holland, American father. Signed pro contract with Venlo of Dutch Second Division at age 17, later joined First Division club Willem II. Ball control, tight turn, and speed make him a threat.

Eric WYNALDA. Attack. Aged 25 (born June 9, 1969) with 50 caps. FC Saarbrucken (Ger). Played three years (1987-89) at San Diego State University. Member of 1990 US World Cup. Joined FC Saarbrucken in 1992, becoming first American to play in the Bundesliga; scored nine goals in his first 10 games. Tall and strong, can play any of the forward positions.

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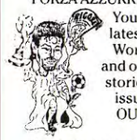

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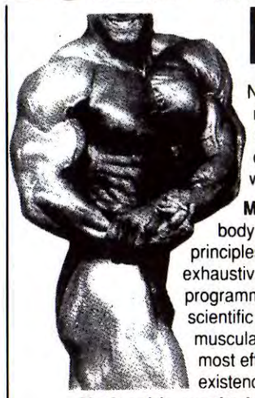

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The Argentinian coach, Alfio Basile, has not yet made up his mind about whether to include Maradona in his squad for US '94, and although the player has said that he would go if chosen, his fitness and his attitude are still causing concern.

Maradona's playing career has been at a standstill since the end of his suspension for drugs abuse. His brief spell with Newell's Old Boys did little for either club or player, and he needs to prove that he is 100 per cent fit.

Although he has been training, he caused an upset by giving a media conference after one session and allowing in only those journalists he approved of, and barring the rest. One of those kept out said that as a footballer, Maradona now makes an excellent bouncer, and added: "Perhaps that's why they want him in the US, to keep people out of the training quarters."

Maradona, now 33, captained his country in the World Cup Final in 1986 (won) and 1990 (lost). In 1982 he was sent off during a quarter-final which Brazil won. He almost gained selection for the 1978 tournament, but eventually was omitted

because he was too young.

His international colleague, Claudio Caniggia, thinks that Maradona would be very important to the current squad, even if only 60 per cent of his former self.

"But it's unlikely that one player will be as influential in any game as stars used to be," he added. "So much now depends on teamwork."

Caniggia, 27, was back in Buenos Aires as a member of the AS Roma squad taking part in a four-club tournament. He too served a suspension for drugs abuse, but is fully fit, has been in regular training in Italy, and hopes for a place in the World Cup squad.

Caniggia has not seen anything of Argentina's group opponents, but feels that if the team click they need not worry about rivals and should qualify for the second round. And he does not agree that the team have deteriorated lately.

"You can't go by one bad result, against Brazil, when a lot of foreign-based players were missing. Our disadvantage is that we can't often get our squad together."

The talking point of the moment concerns the attack. Which two players would play from Batistuta, Balbo and Caniggia? Or could all three play?

"The coach will decide how to make the best use of each player," says Caniggia. "Balbo and Batistuta are scorers, I am not. I move up more from behind. But there is no reason why we shouldn't all play well together."

MEXICO: You're never too old to learn. And Humberto Filizola proves the point. He has just made his debut as a professional footballer . . . at the age of 44.

What's more, he helped Universidad de Tamaulipas to avoid relegation from the Mexican First Division. They drew 1-1 with America, and dodged the drop on goal difference.

Filizola, a dean at the university where the team are based, played for half an hour, and almost scored.

At the top end of the table, six of the eight teams who will go into the final play-offs are now known — Santos from Group One, Atlante (Two), Cruz Azul and Toluca (Three), and UA de Guadalajara and Atlas (Four).

The two third-placed teams with the best records are to play off against the two second-placed clubs with the worst records. So America are to face Necaxa and Guadalajara are to meet Morelia to decide the final two. This is a fair method, because on occasions a club fail to get to the final stages despite having a better record than a club in another group.

Almost a third of the matches during the competition ended in draws. Universidad Guadalajara drew most, 17, but had the fewest defeats, four, to go with 17 wins.

What's it all about, Alfio?

ARGENTINA'S national team coach Alfio Basile does not like the media, at least the majority. Very few Argentinian coaches before him did, for good reason.

"The Argentinian FA tell me I have to speak to everybody and I am employed by them, so I speak to everybody," he says, which is not a good start to an interview.

"When we lost 5-0 to Colombia [in a World Cup qualifying game which nearly put Argentina out] they were all looking for a replacement for me. Then we beat Germany in December and everything was fine. Then in March we lost in Brazil and they were at it again.

"Here, if you lose one game you're no good. They want you to win every match."

"And it's the same with the players. Everybody tells me who to put in, but not who to leave out. If I followed everybody's advice I would have to put 70 men on the field."

Basile adds: "The truth is we play better away than at home because of the pressure, so I am optimistic about the World Cup. The US is the most neutral place where a World Cup could be held and we expect less pressure. But in Miami, when we played the Germans in December, I had 2,000 Argentinians sitting in the stands behind me.

"The game had barely started when they started shouting at me to send on this player and that. I thought 'not here too!' I turned round and sent them to hell in no uncertain terms."

Questions about the team's preparations are another thorny matter. "That's our problem," says

Basile. "We train regularly with 10 or 11 players — two of them goalkeepers — while the others play abroad.

"I wanted Claudio Caniggia to come and train with us while he was under suspension, but AS Roma would not let him. They weren't very helpful in releasing Abel Balbo for internationals, either."

His line-up is settled for the World Cup as long as no problems arose through injuries or some outstanding player suddenly appeared. But he wasn't going to give any names.

"I want everybody fighting for places right up to the last moment," he says.

As for tactics, he goes on: "We lost games when we made mistakes, but we're going to continue playing the same way, 4-4-2, no man-to-man marking. We're not going to change the way which has given us so many successes.

"And I put the players in and I leave them out. This isn't an old friends club. The day they force somebody on me, I'm leaving."

ARGENTINA: The general opinion is that River Plate were poor champions of a poor National A Division opening championship.

Due to the late start of the 1993-94 season, because of World Cup qualifying games, the event was interrupted by a three-month summer break with four games to go . . . and that did not help.

Last season's closing tournament champions, Velez Sarsfield (second, a point back) and Boca Juniors (a further point away) played the better soccer, but overall it was not good, and was too physical.

Velez had too small a playing staff to cope with the demands, and Boca only started moving up the table once Cesar Menotti took over as coach. River Plate, who have the strictest coach around in their former defender and national team captain, Daniel Passarella, sold two internationals to Japan during the short 19-game tournament — Gustavo Zapata, who made the wheels go round in midfield, and Ramon Medina Bello, who still finished as the club's top scorer with eight goals.

So Passarella, winning his third title in four years as club coach, lined up the youngest team in the League. They included three current internationals, but lacked adequate goalkeeping cover.

World Cup keeper Sergio Goycochea went through a bad patch and was finally dropped, but had to be brought back for the next game when his reserve let in three.

Outstanding youngsters promoted by Passarella and worth noting for the future include midfielders Arnaldo Ortega (already capped) and Marcelo Gallardo, and forwards Facundo Villalba, Claudio Rojas and Hernan Crespo.

Veteran defender Hernan Diaz also stood out, and earned a recall.

Statistically speaking, this was an extremely close championship with top and bottom separated by only 10 points and almost half the matches (86 of 190) ending in draws.

There were 2.14 goals per game, with Uruguayan Sergio Martinez of (Boca Juniors) the top scorer with 12, and 113 players were sent off.

River Plate qualified for one place in next year's Libertadores Cup. The other places goes to the closing championship winner or the winner between the two runners-up if River Plate succeed again.

PERU: Sporting Cristal beat Ciclista Lima 4-1 in the final of the opening tournament, which qualified them for next year's CONMEBOL Cup — comparable to the UEFA Cup and for teams not playing in the Libertadores Cup.

This success also gives them two bonus points to take into this year's First Division championship.

Ciclista Lima, Peru's oldest club, were a revelation, winning one of the two groups unbeaten.

Vice-champions Alianza Lima signed Serbian coach Ivan Brzic, who had been coaching champions Universitario until the middle of last season.

CHILE: Argentinian international midfielder Nestor Gorosito, recently acquired by Universidad Catolica from San Lorenzo, is putting up outstanding performances in the Copa Chile.

Fan violence, especially when the big Santiago clubs clash, is worrying officials. Universidad de Chile's 4-1 destruction of champions Colo-Colo — watched by the new Chilean president, Eduardo Frei, a fervent Universidad fan — was on the point of being suspended several times because of spectator trouble.

COLOMBIA: Assistant national team coach Hernan Gomez said that goalkeeper Rene Higuita would not be recalled for the World Cup although he is putting up good performances for Nacional, jointly leading one group of the opening championship.

Higuita will not be allowed to leave the country, due to his judicial problems.

Carlos Valderrama's slow recovery from a knee injury is worrying. He needed another month's complete rest.

BEST ON THE BEACH

BEACH SOCCER is so popular in Brazil — especially in Rio de Janeiro — that it was no surprise when Brazil hosted the first world championship and won it, beating Italy 6-3 in the final. The United States beat Argentina 5-3 for third place.

The decider evoked many memories. Junior and Edinho lined up for Brazil, while Italy fielded — or is it sanded? — Alessandro Altobelli, Claudio Gentile and Franco Causio.

Rai runs into trouble

HARDLY a Monday passes without the sports pages of Brazilian papers publishing a story under one of the following headlines: "PSG win and Rai plays badly"; PSG draw and Rai plays badly"; or "PSG lose and Rai plays badly."

Paris St Germain have won the French League but Rai, the main man in coach Carlos Alberto Parreira's plans for Brazil's World Cup team, has been having the most miserable of times.

Brazilians were able to witness Rai's suffering for themselves when PSG's Cup-winners Cup semi-final visit to Arsenal was shown in full on television.

And they were shocked to see Rai, who thrived for Sao Paulo when Tele Santana gave him the freedom of midfield, stuck up front as a lone centre-forward, pitted by PSG's management into an aerial battle he had no hope of winning.

Rai received only one pass to his feet during the whole of the second half. Otherwise, the ball went in his direction only when PSG lofted a cross into the penalty area.

'Against Arsenal, his PSG team-mates appeared almost to be boycotting him'

For a player who revels in an attacking midfield role and is at his best receiving the ball at his feet, playing a quick one-two and then charging into the area, being asked to play this role was a joke.

In other games, Rai has been deployed on the right wing, where he is equally uncomfortable. This led Zico, in a recent interview, to blame PSG rather than the player for a dramatic loss of form, which has led many to question his presence in Brazil's World Cup team.

"Parreira is right to stick with Rai," was Zico's verdict. "Rai's problem is the team's tactics. I saw some of PSG's matches on the TV in Japan and it made me feel sorry for him.

"Rai was limited to a narrow stretch of the pitch as if he were a winger. Running up and down the whole time. It wore him out physically and psychologically and individually he was not noticed.

"Valdo performed the role which should be given to Rai. Total freedom, as Rai had with Sao Paulo and Brazil."

Against Arsenal, Rai appeared almost to be boycotted by his team-mates. He got into good positions several times but on almost every occasion, other players preferred a different option — usually to go it alone.

Valdo, meanwhile, proved that Parreira will be perfectly justified if he leaves him out; he played what the Brazilian press like to describe as a "bureaucratic" game, distributing numerous ineffective passes sideways.

Parreira has said he will persist with Rai until the last possible moment. But Rai would do himself an enormous favour if he takes up Tele Santana's offer of a place back with Sao Paulo.

"Rai was a leader there" says Santana. "He was able to feel useful to all the other players. That is probably not the case at Paris St Germain, where he is just another player.

Rai has another two seasons of his contract to run. His determination to keep going is admirable . . . but with the way things are at Paris St Germain, it could wreck his career.

Palmeiras among the goals

PALMEIRAS scored six goals in a game for the third time this year when they demolished Bragantino 6-0 in a Sao Paulo championship match.

Their previous victims were Ituano and Argentina's Boca Juniors, the latter in the Libertadores Cup.

The win put Palmeiras top of the Sao Paulo championship — run this year, believe it or not, on a straightforward League basis — ahead of Corinthians on the number of games won.

But the multi-million dollar team have not had an entirely trouble-free ride, despite scoring 51 goals in 23 matches. In the Libertadores Cup, they made the second round only because of the South American Confederation, who allow three out of four teams in the first-round groups to qualify.

Palmeiras finished third in group two and had three players sent off in the last three minutes away to Boca Juniors, after conceding a late goal.

Meanwhile, Edilson, Edmundo and Evair have been showing their customary reluctance to pass, while Colombia's Fredy Rincon has performanced erratically since joining in January and seems to be pining for his native Cali — a lively, happy-go-lucky place which is a stark contrast to grey, smoke-ridden Sao Paulo.

Palmeiras also have faced absurd fixture congestion, playing twice a week in the Sao Paulo championship, once a week in the Libertadores and occasionally in the Copa Brazil.

There were no surprises in Rio, with the big four — Vasco, Fluminese, Flamengo and Botafogo — qualifying for the final stage, played on a round-robin basis with the teams meeting each other twice.

Vasco earned two bonus points to start with, for having the best record in the first stage.

That prompted outspoken director Eurico Miranda to comment: "You could make up a team with the best players from Flamengo. Fluminense and Botafogo and they still would not be able to beat us."

BRIAN HOMEWOOD

TRANSFERS

Gabriel Cedres, Uruguayan international striker, *from Argentinos Juniors to River Plate* in Argentina . . . **Roberto Ayala,** 20, Argentina national squad defender, *from FC Oeste to River Plate in Argentina* (reported at $1.5 million) . . . **Albeiro Usuriaga,** Colombian international winger, *from America (Colombia) to Independiente (Argentina)* . . . **Ivo Bassay,** Chilean international striker, *from Necaxa (Mexico) to Boca Juniors (Argentina)* on a year's loan.

TABLES

ARGENTINA
National A Division — *opening championship (final)*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
River Plate	19	9	6	4	29	17	24
Velez Sarsfield	19	8	7	4	19	14	23
Racing Club	19	8	7	4	24	21	23
Boca Juniors	19	8	6	5	25	12	22
Independiente	19	7	8	4	27	20	22
Lanus	19	6	10	3	23	18	22
Gimnasia Plata	19	6	9	4	21	15	21
San Lorenzo	19	8	6	5	23	20	21
Banfield	19	6	8	5	20	17	20
Ferro Carril Oeste	19	4	11	4	17	20	19
Argentinos Juniors	19	4	10	5	23	20	19
Huracan	19	5	8	6	22	23	18
Deportivo Mandiyu	19	5	7	7	25	24	17
Platense	19	4	9	6	22	25	17
Newell's Old Boys	19	4	9	6	16	22	17
Gimnasia y Tiro	19	5	6	8	16	25	16
Belgrano Cordoba	19	4	8	7	18	30	16
Rosario Central	19	2	11	6	15	24	15
Deportivo Espanol	19	3	9	7	8	20	15
Edustiantes La Plata	19	3	8	7	15	20	14

Bottom relegation averages (points over last three seasons — bottom two relegated at end of season): Argentinos Juniors 0.905; Rosario Central 0.905; Newell's Old Boys 0.884; Estudiantes LP 0.852; Gimnasia y Tiro 0.842.

BOLIVIA
National Championship

Group A: 1) Jorge Wilsterman 8 pts; 2) Blooming, Real Santa Cruz 7; 4) Bolivar 5; 5) Destroyers 4; 6) Ciclon 2.
Group B: 1) Oriente Petrolero 9; 2) Independiente Petrolero, The Strongest 7; 4) San Jose, Guabira 6; 6) Metalsan 2.

BRAZIL
STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
RIO DE JANEIRO — regular season *(final standings)*

Group A: 1) Vasco da Gama 19pts; 2) Flamengo 14; 3) Bangu 14; 4) Volta Redona, Madureira 10; 6) Itaperuna 5.
Group B: 1) Flumense 16; 2) Botafogo 15; 3) Americano 11; 4) Olaria 8; 5) America 6; 6) Vampo Grande 3.
Top two of each group qualify for final round, group winners with one bonus point each and Vasco with another bonus point forgetting most points in championship.

SAO PAULO LEAGUE — 1st Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Corinthians	20	12	7	1	39	17	31
Palmeiras	21	12	6	3	43	15	30
Sao Paulo	19	11	5	3	37	17	27
America	21	9	6	6	22	18	24
Santos	21	7	8	6	26	26	22
Rio Branco	21	8	5	8	21	23	21
Novorizontino	22	6	9	7	26	27	21
Portuguesa	21	7	6	8	29	36	20
Guarani	21	6	8	7	33	32	20
Bragantino	21	5	10	6	21	23	20
Santo Andre	21	6	6	9	19	26	18
Ferroviaria	20	6	5	9	22	29	17
Uniao Sao Joao	21	5	7	9	23	30	17
Ponte Preta	22	4	9	9	15	32	17
Mogi Mirim	20	5	6	9	20	30	16
Ituano	22	2	9	11	15	34	13

CHILE
Copa Chile *(pre-season tournament)*

Group 1: 1)Antofagasta 7 pts; 2) Iquique, Cobreloa 5; 4) Cobresal 4; 5) Africa 3.
Group 2: 1) Atacama 8; 2) La Serena 6; 3) Ovalle 5; 4) Coquimbo 4; 5) Union La Calera 3.
Group 3: 1) Univ de Chile 9; 2) Union Espanola 7; 3) Everton 5; 4) Union San Felipe, Santiago Wanderers 3.
Group 4: 1) Colo Colo 7; 2) Universidad Catolica 6; 3) Melipilla 5; 4) Palestino 4; 5) Audax Italiano 1.
Group 5: 1) Talca Rangers 8;2) Union Santa Cruz 7; 3) O'Higgings 6; 4) Huachipato 5; 5) Colchagua 3; 6) Nublense 1.
Group 6: 1) Concepcion 9; 2) Osorno 7; 3) Puerto Montt 5; 4) Temuco 4; 5) Fernandez Vial 3; 6) Lota Schwager 2.

COLOMBIA
Opening Championship

Group A (10 games): 1) America, Once Caldas 12 pts; 3) Dep. Cali 11; 4) Millonarios, Independiente Santa Fe, Huila 10; 7) Quindio 7; 8) Pereira 6.
Group B (20 games): 1) Nacional 14; 2) Envigado 13; 3) Atletico Junior 12; 4) Cucuta 10;5) Tulua 9; 6) Indep. Medellin, Bucaramanga, Union Magdalena 8.

VENEZUELA
First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Caracas FC*	24	13	8	3	37	20	36
Minerven*	24	12	5	7	34	29	30
Trujillanos*	23	10	9	4	41	25	30
Italia	24	12	6	6	35	24	30
Tachira*	24	9	7	8	30	25	26
Mineros Guyana	24	9	8	9	35	24	26
Maritimo	23	11	3	9	38	29	25
El Vigia	24	9	6	9	32	31	24
Estudiantes	24	9	6	9	30	31	24
Monagas	24	7	9	8	31	36	23
Llaneros	24	7	8	9	26	28	22
Valencia	24	9	4	11	19	24	22
Univ. de los Andes	24	6	9	9	31	39	21
Zamora	24	5	10	9	22	27	20
Maracaibo	24	5	10	9	24	42	20
Anzoategui	24	1	6	17	24	56	8

** = includes bonus points.*

ECUADOR
First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nacional	5	4	1	0	11	3	9
Espoli	6	3	1	2	12	10	7
Emelec	5	3	1	1	6	4	7
Delfin	6	3	1	2	6	6	7
Dep. Quito	6	2	2	2	8	9	6
Liga Dep Universitaria	5	2	1	2	11	8	5
Green Cross	6	2	1	3	8	8	5
Aucas	6	2	1	3	5	7	5
Valdez	5	1	2	2	7	10	4
Barcelona	4	2	0	2	6	8	4
Universidad Portoviejo	6	1	2	3	6	8	4
Cuenca	6	1	1	4	5	10	3

PERU
Pre-season tournament *(qualifying for CONMEBOL Cup)* — final

Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sporting Cristal	7	5	0	2	23	5	10
Leon de Huanuco	7	4	2	1	11	8	10
Alianza Lima	7	3	3	1	15	11	9
Dep.Sipesa (Chimbote)	7	1	4	2	8	11	6
Juan Aurich (Chiclayo)	7	2	2	3	9	14	6
San Agustin	7	0	3	4	7	16	3
Defensor Lima	7	0	3	4	6	15	3

Group B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ciclista Lima	7	5	2	0	20	7	12
Sport Boys (Callao)	7	4	1	2	14	8	9
Deportivo Municipal	7	3	2	2	8	7	8
Melgar (Arequipa)	7	3	1	3	15	10	7
C.Manucci (Trujillo)	7	2	3	2	9	8	7
Union Minas (C Pasco)	7	1	4	2	4	12	6
Alianza At. (Sullana)	7	1	2	4	10	10	4

Sporting Cristal beat Ciclista Lima 4-1 in final.

MEXICO
First Division — *(final standings regular season)*

Group 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Santos	38	16	13	9	58	56	45
Necaxa	38	12	15	11	54	52	37
Puebla	38	9	16	13	41	49	34
Univ. Nuevo Leon	38	8	16	14	34	58	32
Univ. Guadalajara	38	8	13	17	39	60	29

Group 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atlante	38	19	4	15	78	59	42
Morelia	38	14	11	13	64	65	39
UNAM	38	15	8	15	57	46	38
Leon	38	14	19	14	47	59	38
Queretaro	38	6	15	17	38	60	27

Group 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cruz Azul	38	18	12	8	62	33	48
Toluca	38	18	10	10	54	32	46
America	38	17	6	15	67	51	40
Veracruz	38	12	10	16	50	65	34
Univ. Tamaulipas	38	6	15	17	36	53	27

Group 4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UA Guadalajara	38	17	17	4	49	26	51
Atlas	38	16	11	11	57	41	43
Guadalajara	38	15	13	10	44	34	43
Monterrey	38	12	12	14	56	71	36
UT Neza	38	10	11	17	46	69	31

GUATEMALA
First Division — *final round*

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Municipal	6	2	3	1	7
Comunicaciones	6	2	3	1	7
Escuintla	6	2	3	1	7
Aurora	6	1	4	1	6
Suchitepequez	6	2	1	3	5
Sacachispas	6	2	1	3	5

COSTA RICA
First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Alajuelense	41	21	13	7	68	37	55
Herediano	39	16	16	7	75	38	48
Saprissa	41	16	16	9	58	44	48
Cartago	40	14	18	8	48	33	46
San Carlos	41	15	15	11	44	46	45
Perez Zeledon	41	14	14	13	39	42	42
Limon	41	13	16	12	42	32	42
San Ramon	41	14	13	14	41	41	41
Puntarenas	41	13	14	14	60	56	40
Belem	40	9	13	18	30	48	31
Turrialba	41	7	14	20	44	65	28
Carmelita	41	5	12	24	31	71	22

HONDURAS
First Division

After 25 games: 1) Real Espana 37 pts; 2) Olimpia 33; 3) Vida, Victoria 26; 5) Platense 24; 6) Motagua, Real Maya, Marathon 23; 9) Progreseno 18; 10) Petrotela 17.

EL SALVADOR
First Division

After 34 games: 1) LA Firpo 47 pts; 2) Alianza 38; 3) FAS 36; 4) Baygon-ADET 35; 5) Tiburones 34; 6) Marte, Municipal Limeno 32; 8) Aquila 29; 9) Cojutepeque 27; 10) Apaneca 24.

FOOTBALL COACHES & TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Adidas & PFA support first convention

THE Association of Football Coaches and Teachers reach an historical landmark in May when almost one year after their formation, the AFCAT host their first International Coaching Convention at Milton Keynes.

From Friday 20 through until Sunday lunch-time on Sunday, May 22, coaches from around the world will congregate to view a truly international array of coaching talent.

A host of coaches from Holland, South America, Canada, US, Norway and Sweden as well as the "best of British", will be in action, displaying their skills and different techniques.

The convention supported by adidas, *WORLD SOCCER* and the English PFA and organised through the Milton Keynes Football Development Office, is designed to help promote and develop coach education in all aspects of the game, with particular emphasis on the enhancement of skill within team play.

Also on the agenda will be a look at developing aspects of fitness and the treatment of injury from a coach's angle. As always with an AFCAT event, there will be no single approach or system put forward, but a wide ranging view of ideas.

Some will no doubt differ from others, but it is a feature of the AFCAT approach that coaches should select from an extensive menu which allows for greater personal choice by the coach when preparing his team to play.

Norway, Sweden, Holland and a host of South American clubs have qualified for the World Cup finals — along with hosts US and therefore there should be plenty to consider.

Acting as teams for coaching will be a range of local players from young schoolboys right up to senior players — so there will be something for everyone at whatever level.

This is the first time such an ambitious and extensive project has been undertaken in this country and the organisers are hoping for a good turn out. AFCAT is now firmly on its way to 1,000 members and as yet no real recruiting campaign has taken place — word of mouth proving a very successful system so far.

The Catalyst, the magazine of the AFCAT membership has proved a success with members at home and abroad. Most rate it as the best magazine of its kind with articles from Don Howe, Bob Wilson, Dario Gradi and many others.

Among the presenters at the convention will be Tony Waiters, the former England gkeeper now based in Canada. Tony has a world-wide reputation for his excellence as a coach and deep thinker of the game.

Bryan King, another Englishman abroad, will be presenting some of the work he sees in Norway where he is now based. Roby Stahl, husband of Michelle Akers-Stahl of the US, widely regarded as the finest female soccer player in the world, will be showing the type of work he undertakes in Sweden.

Steve Darby, another Englishman working in Australia, will explain the concept and development of "Roo Ball" a coaching project for soccer in Australia. Dean Conway, from the US, will give a presentation on the development of soccer in the US and the World Cup.

Among those coaches from the UK working at the convention will be John Cartwright, Richard Money, Jack Detchon, Colin Morris, Paul Power of the PFA, Dario Gradi and Willie Donnachie. Chris Bart-Williams is running an inner-city football project in Sheffield with Chris Kiwomya's brother Andy, and will be attending to pick up a few tips.

WORLD SOCCER columnist Trevor Brooking will be at the dinner, as will PFA Chairman Gordon Taylor, who will be making a speech, and other guest coaches yet to be announced.

Another "star" of the convention will be the adidas Predator soccer shoe, the brainchild of former Anfield star, Craig Johnston (left). Adidas are responding to public demand by setting up a see, test, and trial opportunity for teachers and coaches, so enthusiastically welcomed by young players at the English Schools Festivals over Easter.

How you can attend the convention

THE convention kicks off at 2.00 on Friday, May 20, and includes accommodation for two nights with all meals including a special banquet on Saturday night with guest speakers. There is also an adidas free gift for all delegates, as well as a coaching pack — all for the unbelievable price of £110 to members.

Non members can also attend —for the weekend or on a daily basis. There will also be a range of exhibitors there to provide a broad selection of different merchandising opportunities for purchases by those attending.

If you are involved in soccer, then you should be interested in taking part in this historical event. ***For details contact: Rob Littleford, Penmore House, Hasland Road, Hasland, Chesterfield, S41 OSJ. Tel: 0246 270124.***

COMPETITION WINNER

MARK SHIPP from Humberside was the winner of our first competition, held last year, and he elected to attend a training day at Arsenal at the end of March.

After meeting manager George Graham in the players' lounge, Mark joined George and Stewart Houston to watch training and tactics prior to the game with Liverpool, which Arsenal won 1-0.

Mark is pictured above with Arsenal strikers Kevin Campbell (left) and Ian Wright at the training ground.

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WORLD SOCCER

More power and not so pretty

Star of the show . . . Nigeria's ace striker Rachidi Yekini.

THIS YEAR's African Nations Cup finals in Tunisia was largely without crowds and atmosphere, but still produced some of the most telling evidence yet of the game's progress in this continent.

The organisation ran like clockwork, and the football showed a remarkable improvement from Senegal '92.

Nigeria's ultimate success was only in doubt once, when Ivory Coast, the defending champions, bravely attacked with a three-man strike force in their semi-final.

But once Joel Tiehi and Abdoulaye Traore had gone off with injuries early in the second half, Nigeria could afford to relax and saunter through to their ultimate win.

Ironically, for Africa's most populous country, it was only their second success in the Nations Cup, although they have now contested five of the last eight finals.

The tournament in Tunisia was the last with 12 finalists. In Kenya, in 1996, the number will increase to 16.

This decision has raised eyebrows. Are there enough countries of a sufficiently high soccer-playing standard to sustain such an event?

The success of outsiders Mali may put all that into perspective. Mali, making their first appearance in the final tournament since 1972, finished fourth and scored two remarkable wins along the way — effectively eliminating Tunisia and knocking out three-time champions Egypt.

A larger field in Kenya will give more opportunity for upsets and upstart teams, which go a long way to ensuring the enjoyment of such an event.

European observers, again in abundance at the tournament, also spoke sceptically of the standard in Tunisia, lamenting the growing influence of European coaches and Euro-based footballers on the African way of playing.

Former Dutch national team coach Kees Rijvers, for example, said: "I missed the spontaneity and creativity," while Anderlecht representative Jean-Pierre Kindermans claimed: "The players were loaded down with tactical limitations and patterns of play which went against their nature of playing soccer."

But exactly what do these so-called experts want from the African championship? Circus tricks and teams who just dribble with the ball?

The progression of the African game now makes it a force on the international stage, as Cameroon showed in Italy in 1990 and as Nigeria are likely to repeat in the United States, this month.

Nigeria combined all the elements of World Cup-winning football, with strong running, superb fitness, strength and technical ability. The days of crowd-pleasing tricks are long gone.

The Nations Cup, like its counterparts in Europe and South America, is now a tournament of stature, with plenty of benefits for the eventual winners.

That is why most of the teams will play to win, even if it is no longer pretty.

MARK GLEESON

1994 AFRICAN NATIONS CUP

LEADING SCORERS

1	Rachidi **YEKINI**	Nigeria	5
2	Joel **TIEHI**	Ivory Coast	4
3	Abdel **SAMAD**	Egypt	2
	Michel **BASSOLE**	Ivory Coast	2
	Elijah **LITANA**	Zambia	2
	Mordon **MALITOLI**	Zambia	2
	Charles **AKUNNOR**	Ghana	2
	Emmanuel **AMUNIKE**	Nigeria	2

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP ALL-STAR XI

1	Ahmed **SHOUBEIR**	G	Egypt
2	Frank **AMANKWAH**	D	Ghana
3	Elijah **LITANA**	D	Zambia
4	Serge-Alain **MAGUY**	M	Ivory Coast
5	Harrison **CHONGO**	D	Zambia
6	Ben **IROHA**	D	Nigeria
7	Austin **OKOCHA**	M	Nigeria
8	Abedi **PELE**	M	Ghana
9	Daniel **AMOKACHI**	F	Nigeria
10	Rachidi **YEKINI**	F	Nigeria
11	Joel **TIEHI**	F	Ivory Coast

● *MasterCard donated $1,000 to each player's chosen charity, with the main beneficiaries being the Zambian plane crash trust.*

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA
US Chaouia keep up their clear advantage in the championship with eight rounds of competition left. They have a three-point lead over second-placed JS Bordj Menaiel.

MOROCCO
OLYMPIC Casablanca all but assured of the championship with an 11-point lead over Wydad Casablanca, the defending champions.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

BOTSWANA
DANIEL CHIKANDA, 43, is the latest in a growing list of Zimbabwean-born coaches to take charge of a Botswana club. He joins former champions Gaborone United.

South African club Mamelodi Sundowns won a challenge trophy against Gaborone United, 5-4 on penalties win after a goalless draw.

United had won the right to play the South African champions after beating Township Rollers 2-1 in the Gaborone Sun Cup Final.

Rollers have signed Zimbabwean youth international striker Webster Kurwaisimba from Tanganda.

Another import is Zambian-born Dickson Makwaza, who joins as coach of BMC. There are now four Zambian coaches in Botswana.

ANGOLA
PETRO ATLETICO won the Super Cup, beating 1-0 Atletico Sports Aviacao at the Cideadela Stadium in Luanda. Paulito scored after 69 minutes for the champions.

MOZAMBQUE
FERROVIARIO Maputo, the club owned by the national railway company, led with a 100 per cent record from eight matches. Maxaquene were in second place, five points behind.

Last year's champions, Costa do Sol, are back in third place with nine points, but have a game in hand.

ZIMBABWE
ZIMBABWE will host the first Confederation of Southern African Football Associations (Cosafa) senior tournament in August and September.

Nine nations from the region are expected to take part in what will serve as an organisational dress rehearsal for next year's All-Africa Games in Harare.

Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland and Zambia are to compete, as well as Zimbabwe.

CENTRAL AFRICA

GABON
STADE d'Akebar have signed the 21-year-old Congolese international Pierre Tchibota-Zaou.

CAMEROON
AIGLE have kept up their unlikely lead at the top of the table and are now three points ahead of second placed Prevoyance on the top of the table.

Union Douala lie a further point behind.

WEST AFRICA

IVORY COAST
ABIDJAN giants Africa Sports have not extended the contracts of Nigerian internationals Thompson Oliha, Ajibade Babalade and Taofik Malik.

The first have returned home, with Oliha included in the squad preparations for the World Cup.

Malik has signed for Esperance of Tunisia.

Africa Sports have signed another Nigerian, Akim Ogunmade, and kept Congolese international Sylain Mounkassa. The team's new coach is Belgian-born Rene Taelman, formerly with Club Brugge, Seraing, Kalamu (Zaire) and Olympic Casablanca of Morocco. Veteran defender Pascal Miezan, who played in the African Cup-winners' Cup final last year, has retired and is now on the club's technical staff.

Africa Sports led Group A in the early stages of the championship, having dropped one point in four matches, while ASEC Abidjan had a 100 per cent record after four games in Group B.

NIGERIA
JULIUS BERGER were the early leaders at the start of Nigeria's new season. They had 11 points, Enyimba two more than Concord United and Enyimba.

DALLAS, the Capital of World Soccer? Just for a while, back in March, it looked like it. It started with all the FIFA referees hoping to officiate in the 1994 World Cup sweeping into town for their physical examinations at the Cooper Clinic.

With them came a bunch of top foreign journalists and FIFA officials. Then there were all those World Cup television people inspecting the building where they're fitting out the International Broadcasting Centre, the nerve-centre of the World Cup telecasts.

Right after that, came the US v Bolivia game at the Cotton Bowl: a highly entertaining 2-2 tie, greeted enthusiastically by a knowledgeable crowd of 27,000.

Two things about that game reveal the growing soccer tradition in Dallas. The crowd saw Jeff Agoos, a product of local youth soccer, give a solid performance for the US. But it also revealed something about the Bolivians because four members of that team — Juan Chavez, Luis Cristaldo, Mauricio Ramos and Jaime Moreno — had played in Dallas several times before. As youth players for the Tahuichi club in the Dallas Cup.

The following day came the Dallas Cup itself, the 15th edition. More foreign journalists, to cover 144 teams from . . . well, just about everywhere. Japan, Slovakia, Mexico, England, Austria, Canada, Venezuela, Italy, Germany, Peru, Argentina, the Czech Republic, Scotland, Bolivia, Spain, etc. Plus teams from all over the United States.

The highlight of the tournament is now the Under-19 Super Group, which director Bill Stroube has designed to attract the youth teams of top pro clubs. This year he got Celtic, Tottenham, Real Madrid, River Plate, Kaiserslautern, UNAM Pumas, and Torino.

Champions . . . Real Madrid celebrate their 8-0 win over Kaiserslautern in the U-19 final.

Right from the start, everyone's favourite was Real Madrid. Last year's winners, who looked certain to repeat. A very mature team, without a weakness in any position, which was not troubled by any opponents. In the first round, Real wiped out its three opponents by a combined score of 20-2.

The extent of Real's superiority can be judged from the fate of Tahuichi. The Bolivians proved the scourge of the Brits, beating Celtic 1-0, then eliminating Tottenham 3-1. That win put Tahuichi into the semi-final against Real Madrid.

An eventful game. After 10 minutes, with the score at 0-0, the crazy Dallas weather made itself felt. Torrential rain, then a sudden bolt of lightning that knocked out the stadium floodlights. Exit both teams, in a hurry. It took 45 minutes to fix matters, by which time the rain had stopped. Tahuichi, never liberally equipped with defenders, lost stopper Giovanni Roca, carried off on a stretcher. At half time they were holding on, only 1-0 down. The final score was 6-0 to Real, as the Spaniards made light of the muddy conditions with superb, non-stop attacking football.

While Tahuichi were suffering, the German side Kaiserslautern were causing a major upset by putting out Argentina's River Plate in the other semi-final. To get that far, River had beaten Italy's Torino 2-1 on a superb left-footed goal from . . . Norberto Alonso. Yes, the son of the former River and Argentina star of the same name.

Unarguably, River Plate were the better team in the semi-final against Kaiserslautern, but the Germans showed their unquenchable ability to soak up punishment, and to strike mercilessly back. In Marko Dittgen they had the ideal counter-attacking player — strong, fast, direct, with a nose for goal. It was Dittgen who headed the winner against River Plate.

Against Real Madrid in the final, Kaiserslautern suffered an even worse fate than Tahuichi. The Germans were hanging in there, only 1-0 down at the half. Twelve minutes into the second half it was 4-0 to Real. The final score was 8-0. Three of the goals had come from the game's, and the tournament's, outstanding player: Real Madrid's Felix Prieto.

A light-footed, will-o'-the-wisp of a player, Prieto repeatedly dribbled and darted his way through the packed German defence with superb grace and artistry. Francisco Jimenez, the Real coach, emphasized Prieto's left-footedness: "Every great team needs a couple of left-footers," he said, "Felix is a very skillful player with great potential."

The ease with which the rampant Real team dismissed all its opposition (which raised the usual mutterings about the age of its players) did not bother Bill Stroube.

"We'll have to set about finding teams to challenge them," he said. "The idea of the Super Group is to make it the world's best."

It is an appetising prospect, but is it realistic? The top British teams, Celtic and Tottenham, could not even cope with Tahuichi, who are not a professional team. After his team's 3-1 loss to the Bolivians, the Tottenham coach Keith Waldon spoke openly and honestly about the problem: "The difference is that technically they're far superior to us. I hope the boys learned something. We make too many inaccurate passes, our control is not good enough. We've got to get technically better."

And if top pro clubs are going to find it difficult, where will that leave the Americans? This year each of the five Super Group brackets contained one American team. All five finished bottom of their groups, and the La Jolla Nomads 2-2 draw with Tahuichi (who had already won the group) was the best result.

But it wasn't all gloom for the Americans. Outside of the Super Group there was much better news: American teams swept all the other titles, with the local Dallas Texans club winning both the boys Under-12 and Under-14 titles.

There are still areas for the Dallas Cup to explore. The idea of the Super Group as the World Under-19 Club Championship is a good one — but it can't be taken too seriously as long as there is no Brazilian team participating. The absence of African teams is also something that Bill Stroube is working hard to remedy.

Asia was there — represented by the Japanese national youth team. Its first two games, against Tottenham and the Pumas from Mexico, were both lost 1-0. But in both games, Japan had plenty of the ball, showed excellent technique and rapid movement. Only finishing seemed a problem. In their last game, already eliminated, Japan won 6-1.

The Japanese, it seems, are doing what they do so well. Studying the best, copying, adjusting, learning from set-backs. Working for them is Carlos Pachame, who was Cesar Menotti's assistant when Argentina won the World Cup in 1978. His job: simply and solely to teach technique. The Japanese performance in Dallas, though it was unimpressive in terms of results, should cause warning lights to go on everywhere. Alarm bells should also have been set off — if they weren't already clanging — by the wild variations in the refereeing.

Classy . . . Tottenham's Quinton Fortune

The Dallas Cup is a tournament that takes refereeing very seriously, and has always featured a large number of FIFA officials. This year there were 20, including several candidates for the 1994 World Cup.

Yet some of the most mystifying decisions came from the guys with the FIFA badges. One switched his linesmen over at half time, "explaining" later that he thought one of them was making poor offside calls. Another disallowed a quick throw-in, moved the player back — and let him take it again. And pity poor River Plate! One of their defenders, trying to clear the ball, sliced it dangerously towards his own goal; the goalkeeper just managed to keep the viciously spinning ball out of the net — by using his hands. Up runs the FIFA referee to penalise him for handling a back pass.

Apart from inconsistent refereeing (something that is certainly not limited to the Dallas Cup) the two biggest problem areas are the absurdly changeable March weather, and the quality of the fields. Not even Bill Stroube and his army of nearly 1,000 admirable volunteers can do anything about the weather, it seems. Cold, heat, wind, rain, violent electric storms, even snow — the Dallas Cup has featured the lot.

The fields have got better over the years. But at a price. There used to be Moss Park. A low-lying area of seven closely-packed fields with a lively, almost party-like, atmosphere. But when it rained, Moss Park was quick to flood, so it is no longer used. Instead there is the Breckinridge Soccer Complex, with 10 pretty good fields — but this is an open, wind-swept plain, with an almost desolate feeling, far removed from the cosy atmosphere of Moss Park.

All the big games, including the finals, are played in Lake Highlands Stadium. This is a high-school facility with a capacity of around 10,000 — the ideal size for the tournament. The grass is good, but the field is narrow, only some 67 yards. It is never easy to get perfect football fields in the US.

This year, for the first time, the Dallas Cup made it on to national television, with a live telecast of the Super Group final on the cable network *ESPN*. The tournament will surely continue to grow. Not in size. Stroube is adamant that mere numbers are not what he is after. Quality is what he is after. But where is Stroube going to find teams to match the quality of the remarkable Real Madrid squad?

AMERICAN AIRLINES DALLAS CUP XV
Under-19 Super League

FIRST ROUND

Group 1
Kaiserslautern (Ger) v London Red Devils (Can) ..9-0
Torino (Ita) v La Salsa (US) 3-1
Kaiserslautern v Torino 3-1
London Red Devils v La Salsa 2-1
Kaiserslautern v La Salsa 2-1
Torino v London Red Devils 5-2
Torino & Kaiserslautern qualify

Group 2
River Plate (Arg) v FC Kosice (Slovak) 4-0
Guadalajara (Mex) v Santa Anita Standard (US) ..5-1
FC Kosice v Guadalajara 2-2
River Plate v Santa Anita 2-1
FC Kosice v Santa Anita 2-1
River Plate v Guadalajara 4-1
River Plate qualify

Group 3
Tahuichi (Bol) v Stahl Linz (Aut 3-1
Celtic (Sco) v Nomads (US) 2-0
Stahl Linz v Nomads 4-0
Tahuichi v Celtic 1-0
Celtic v Stahl Linz 3-3
Tahuichi v Nomads 2-2
Tahuichi qualify

Group 4
Nacional (Uru) v Alcons (T&T) 1-0
Real Madrid (Spa) v Hornets 76 (US) 6-0
Real Madrid v Nacional 5-1
Nacional v Hornets 76 2-1
Real Madrid v Alcons 9-1
Alcons v Hornets 76 4-0
Real Madrid & Nacional qualify

Group 5
Tottenham Hotspur (Eng) v Indianapolis (US) 7-0
UNAM Pumas (Mexi) v Japan Select 1-0
UNAM Pumas v Indianapolis 1-0
Tottenham Hotspur v Japan Select 1-0
Japan Select v Indianapolis 6-1
Tottenham Hotspur v UNAM Pumas 2-2
Tottenham & UNAM Pumas qualify

QUARTER-FINALS
Real Madrid v Nacional 2-0
Tahuichi v Tottenham Hotspur 3-1
River Plate v Torino 2-1
Kaiserslautern v UNAM Pumas 3-1

SEMI-FINALS
Real Madrid v Tahuichi 6-0
Kaiserslautern v River Plate 2-1

FINAL
Real Madrid v Kaiserslautern 8-0

Cheers . . . U-12 winners Dallas Texans.

OTHER DIVISION FINALS

Under-12 Boys
Dallas Texans v Corona Utd (US) 4-2

Under-14 Boys
Dallas Texans v CF Regios (Mex) 1-0

Under-16 Boys
California Flyers v Dallas Texans 3-0

Under-19 Boys
Valley Premier (US) v Fomei Hradec Kralove (Cze) 2-1

Under-19 Girls
Dallas Spirit 77 v JUSA Select California 3-0

American Airlines DALLAS CUP XV–1994

BROOKING talkback

BBC Radio and TV commentator TREVOR BROOKING, the former England midfielder, answers your letters. . .

What you think about football's big issues? Now you don't even need to write a letter. Just pick up the phone DIAL: 0891 311665 and record your opinions,Trevor Brooking will answer a selection each month on this page.
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Calls cost 36p minute cheap rate and 48p minute at all other times.

A shirty customer

TREVOR — I like wearing team replica jerseys because they are comfortable and stylish. They all should be available on the open market without the ugly commercial logo on the front. I refuse to wear one that provides free advertising space for a product or company, and that generally limits my choice.

There will be a big demand for soccer jerseys in North America as a result of World Cup US '94 but I don't think North Americans, in general, will buy those with a commercial logo.
— COLIN M KERR, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada.

❒ IT DEPENDS what sort of agreement the club has with their sponsor, but I'm sure those without commercial logos do the greater business. The diehard supporters will buy the kit, however, it looks, but the casual purchaser is more choosy, and tends to go more for the fashion look. The possible demand from North Americans is still relatively uncertain.

Forza Italia!

TREVOR — The European club scene again seems set to be dominated by Italian clubs, with Inter, Parma and Milan through to the finals of the UEFA, Cup-winners and Champions Cups respectively. It proves that the Italian Serie A is clearly the best league world-wide although let us wish Arsenal good luck in the Cup-winners Cup Final and credit their manager, George Graham, who has proven as stylish in the management stakes as when he played.
— COLIN WICKHAM, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs.

❒ THE continued success of Italian clubs in European competitions certainly reflects the strength of the Serie A. The technical skills on display always offer entertainment to admire. The massive financial rewards attract a steady stream of talent, which guarantees quality unrivalled elsewhere. Certainly Arsenal have carried the English flag superbly this season. Manager George Graham has brought regular success despite the "boring" tag often associated with his side. In Europe he adjusts his tactics very cleverly.

Dutch treat

TREVOR — I am a great admirer of Dutch football and I was wondering what you think about Holland's chances of winning the World Cup.
— MARK THOMPSON, London, England.

❒ HOLLAND remain one of my favourites to watch. I played during that wonderful era of Dutch flair when Cruyff, Neeskens and Co. enthralled everyone. They were desperately unlucky to lose both World Cup Finals in 1974 and 1978. In 1988 another orange tidal wave had emerged, and their mesmerising team lifted the European Championship. The nucleus of that side were Koeman, Rijkaard, Wouters, Gullit and Van Basten. Bergamp, Overmars, Winter and Roy don't pose quite the same threat, but if their spirit and attitude is right, then an in-form Holland can extend any team in the world.

Build-up burden

TREVOR — How significant will be the fact that so many of the fancied teams at US '94 (Italy, Holland, Brazil, Argentina, Spain etc) had to struggle to qualify for the finals?

Will they be battle-hardened or emotionally fatigued?

And what effect will Germany's relatively relaxed build up have on their chances?
— JOHN-PAUL BYRNE, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

❒ I DON'T believe the struggles of qualifying have that much effect on how successful those countries will be at US '94.

Italy in 1982 struggled badly in group matches. Paulo Rossi then suddenly started to score, and they defeated Brazil, Argentina and West Germany. A month is a long time, and sides rarely perform to their peak for the whole of that period, let alone in qualifying. Form, injuries, bookings, and a good deal of luck all play their part in a tournament, and it would be no great surprise to find at least a couple of those you mention contesting the last four places. As for Germany, there is no chance of lost sharpness or complacency.

European Union

TREVOR — Although I have enjoyed the new Champions League format, I think it is too restricted. There should be a proper European League of 16 clubs, selected on the basis of their past European and domestic successes over, say, 10 years. The matches should be played midweek so not to clash with the weekend domestic games.

The clubs should be allowed to field a second team in their domestic leagues. Milan, Bayern Munich and Manchester United could easily afford squads large enough to field two quality teams. The domestic leagues would therefore not suffer from the loss of big teams. This would be important for the smaller countries like Belgium and Scotland.
— JONATHAN HART, Solihull, West Midlands.

❒ I CAN'T see your proposals operating that successfully. Qualification for any elite tournament must be based on current players and performance. A 10-year measurement would be totally unworkable. The domestic Leagues are the breeding ground for stars and it is unfair for them to be looked on as of minor importance, where major clubs could field a reserve team. The European format this year was fine by me, but the League format has now been expanded so that television and sponsorship money can be maximised. Money continues to influence all decisions, irrespective of what might be best for football.

Expand the World Cup

TREVOR — It's time FIFA increased the number of entrants to the World Cup from 24 to 32.

There are now a number of new nations participating, from the old Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. An increase in size will give them a greater change of qualifying.

Following the failure of great footballing countries such as Denmark, England and France to qualify for US '94, one can see that is has become increasingly difficult to qualify from Europe. With two places from Europe being given to CONCACAF and Asia for the 1998 World Cup, it is very likely that there could be more upsets like this.

Players of the calibre of Laudrup, Papin, Cantona, Giggs, Rush, Platt and company deserve a chance to take part in soccer's greatest showpiece, and the game in general could benefit from a larger tournament.

Also, with a larger tournament, there would be an opportunity for African, Asian and Oceanic footballers to show their skills and provoke more interest in their respective continental cups.

Here is my format for the 32-nation cup: Hosts & Holders 2, South America 4, Europe 13, Africa 5, Asia 5, Oceania and CONCACAF 3.

Qualifiers would be divided into eight pools of four each. Winners and runners-up of each pool qualify for a 16-team knock-out.
— MARTIN PEROLD, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa.

❒ TO EXPAND the World Cup still further, to 32 sides, would threaten the tournament. Inevitably the standards now set would begin to decline. The qualification process is becoming quite a marathon too, and a preliminary round of some sort might well become a necessity. But the unexpected results are surely what attracts us all to the occasion in the first place.

JAPAN BY MIKE PLASTOW AND MICHI ISHIJIMA

All-round rise in strength

THE SKILL level is higher, the pace faster, and the play more compact than last year. We are privileged to watch a league improve so quickly with all teams growing together.

The J.League has its top and bottom, but the gap is not so wide that any result is a foregone conclusion.

The relative decline of Verdy Kawasaki and Yokohama Marinos is indicative of the change. The first-stage title already looks to be a race between Shimizu S Pulse, Yokohama Flugels, Sanfreece Hiroshima and, Kashima Antlers.

Shimizu win top marks for consistency. Toninho, out for most of last season with a knee injury, is back on form and scoring from midfield. He was top scorer in the final Japan Soccer League as centre forward for Yomiuri. Despite playing deeper, he is on target to repeat that feat for Shimizu. The defence, marshalled by Ronaldo, is the J.League's best with only seven goals conceded in 10 games.

Shimizu also have the luck of true champions, like their three goals against Sanfrecce. First, a defender slipped, letting Toninho through. Three minutes later, national team keeper Kazuya Maekawa misjudged a corner for the second goal. Then Maekawa conceded the third by catching the ball and falling over his line.

Sanfrecce manager Stuart Baxter lamented: "We played well for 87 minutes, but were punished for three mistakes in the other three."

The Sanfrecce challenge has continued despite two big slips, 5-0 at home to Verdy and 3-1 by Shimizu.

Ivan Hasek was put out of action for three weeks with a muscle strain before the Kashima match, between the then unbeaten teams. Pavel Cerny replaced him, and Sanfrecce won 2-0.

Hasek is not forgotten. He returned as substitute for the closing minutes against JEF United Ichihara and laid on a beautiful through pass for Cerny to score.

Seven straight victories make Yokohama Flugels the team of the moment. Everything about Flugels is better this year. Manager Shu Kamo has taught his players to apply intense zonal pressure and keep the defence well upfield. The system often proved too fast, complex and exhausting last year, and the foreign players found it hard to fit in. This year the whole team look more relaxed, the good habits have stuck, and Amarilla has regained the deftness and touch of his time at Barcelona and Olimpia.

But the most remarkable player of all is Edu, the former Santos, Palmeiras and Brazil midfielder. Edu's recent goals include three direct from free-kicks, and one straight in from a corner. Further down the table, Nagoya Grampus Eight, reinforced by powerful midfielder Makoto Yonekura's return, have discovered how to win. Gordon Milne's team set a J.League record with seven against Urawa Red Diamonds, after finishing goalless in their first four matches. There is more good news for Grampus: Gary Lineker is out of plaster and running again. With Lineker, Elivelton, Yasuyuki Moriyama and Takafumi Ogura, due to return from Excelsior in Holland in May, Grampus should score more often in the second stage. One curiosity for the record: after 60 matches in the Suntory Series, not one has gone to a penalty shoot-out.

Brazilians abroad . . . Elivelton of Nagoya Grampus Eight (left) shares a chat with countryman Ronaldo of Shimizu S Pulse.

Fresh start under Falcao

NEW MANAGER Falcao caused a stir with the choice of 22 members of his first Japan team camp. The team that Hans Ooft built is no more.

Only eight players survived from the second Asian round of the World Cup in Qatar last year. Thirteen had never trained with the national team, and the average age was 23.

The local media were quick to recall that Falcao also dug out untried youngsters and tested more than 50 players in a year for Brazil.

Selection for the first camp is no promise of caps, but the squad's fresh, forward-thinking air belies the short — eight month — contract signed by Falcao. He seems to have his eyes set on a more distant future than the Kirin Cup matches against France and Argentina.

Defenders Masami Ihara and Tetsuji Hashiratani are still there, although Hashiratani may be asked to revert to his old position in midfield. Strikers Kazuyoshi Miura and Masashi Nakayama remain too.

Falcao also named 37-year-old Ruy Ramos, who retired from international soccer last year. Ramos declined with thanks.

The outstanding youth representative is 18-year-old striker Shoji Jo of JEF United, who has scored five times in the J.League despite missing several matches while on a youth tour in Europe.

TOTO signs for Jubilo

JUBILO IWATA, the J.League's lowest scorers, have signed the League's first player direct Italy: 29-year-old Salvatore Schillaci (right) of Internazionale, top scorer at Italia '90.

The 20-month contract is thought to be worth $3million, and Japanese fans are looking forward to the combination of Toto and Gon, nickname of Jubilo's international centre-forward, Masashi Nakayama.

Verdy Kawasaki have brought in 27-year-old Capiton (Oleude Jose Ribeiro), from Portuguesa. He recently visited Japan as a member of a Sao Paulo XI for games against Kashima Antlers and Bellmare Hiratsuka.

Urawa Red Diamonds have signed a long list of foreigners, most of whom have been struck down by injury. Uwe Rahn has not played this season. Keeper Miroslav Mentel is out as well, and Lubomir Luhovy broke a hip in pre-season training. Only Michael Rummenigge has appeared on the pitch.

The newest signings are Germany World Cup players Guido Buchwald from VfB Stuttgart, who is due to arrive straight after this year's World Cup finals, and Uwe Bein from Eintracht Frankfurt, who may come to Japan in early July.

J.LEAGUE — SUNTORY SERIES (1ST STAGE)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23
VERDY KAWASAKI 1 (Kitazawa 67)
YOKOHAMA MARINOS 2 (Nizunuma 63, Diaz 79 pen). **Att:** 54,405.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS 0
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 1 (Noh 27). **Att:** 7,854.

KASHIMA ANTLERS 3 (Hasegawa 42, 111)
SHIMIZU S PULSE 2 (Toninho 5, Horiike 9). **Att:** 13,808.

JUBILO IWATA 0
GAMBA OSAKA 2 (Shimada 1, Isogai 75). **Att:** 12,177.

BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 2 (Noguchi 48, Betinho 85)
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 3 (Ordenewitz 11, Jo 13, 24). **Att:** 10,797.

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 1 (Edu 59)
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 0. **Att:** 10,624.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 7 (Fujikawa 16, Moriyama 39, 43, Jorginho 64 pen, 69, Elivelton 73, 78)
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 2 (Kosugi og 4, Okano 70). **Att:** 11,488.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 2 (Medina Bello 2, Diaz 89)
JUBILO IWATA 3 (Endo 23, Masanori Suzuki 31, Nakayama 36). **Att:** 14,215.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 2 (Ordenewitz 4, 89)
KASHIMA ANTLERS 3 (Kurosaki 7, 95, Alcindo 60). **Att:** 52,612.

SHIMIZU S PULSE 2 (Nagashima 15, Toninho 41)
VERDY KAWASAKI 1 (Bismarck 75). **Att:** 18,239.

GAMBA OSAKA 1 (Mita 33)
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 3 (Maezono 37, Amarilla 74, 87). **Att:** 20,854.

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 4 (Noh 51, Cerny 68, 81, Mriyasu 89)
BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 2 (Iwaroto 19, Betinho 76). **Att:** 12,041.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 2 (Okano 20, Fukuda 40)
GAMBA OSAKA 1 (Protasov 59). **Att:** 9,157.

KASHIMA ANTLERS 0
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 2 (Takagi 33, Noh 82). **Att:** 14,128.

JUBILO IWATA 1 (Paus 55)
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 2 (Amarilla 14, Edu 62). **Att:** 15,268.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 0
SHIMIZU S PULSE 1 (Mukujima 10). **Att:** 14,337.

VERDY KAWASAKI 3 (Takeda 22, 43, Miura 42)
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 0. **Att:** 27,475.

BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 3 (Betinho 54 pen, 68, Moguchi 88)
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 0. **Att:** 48,640.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 2 (Elivelton 54, Hirano 105)
KASHIMA ANTLERS 1 (Akica 81). **Att:** 11,981.

SHIMIZU S PULSE 1 (Toninho 95)
JUBILO IWATA 0. **Att:** 17,806.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 3 (Echigo 18, Miyazawa 74, Ordenewitz 96 pen)
YOKOHAMA MARINOS 2 (Miura 44, Mizunuma 82). **Att:** 51,291.

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 2 (Amarilla 22, 107)
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 1 (Mochizuki 10). **Att:** 10,130.

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 0
VERDY KAWASAKI 5 (Miura 22, 38 pen, Ramos 29, Takeda 73, Kitazawa 87). **Att:** 27,052.

GAMBA OSAKA 3 (Yamaguchi 57, 89, 104)
BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 2 (Betinho 64 pen) Almir 85). **Att:** 19,798.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9
KASHIMA ANTLERS 3 (Kasegawa 49, 96, Hashimoto 81)
GAMBA OSAKA 2 (Moroka 16, Isogai 54). **Att:** 13,734.

SHIMIZU S PULSE 3 (Nagashima 8, Toninho 50, 83)
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 0. **Att:** 15,198.

JUBILO IWATA 1 (Paus 91)
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 0. **Att:** 13,942.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 0
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 2 (Cerny 43, 69) **Att:** 13,739.

NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 1 (Yonekrra 61)
VERDY KAWASAKI 0. **Att:** 12,214.

BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 1 (Naisuka 86)
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 4 (Miela 36, Amarilla 44, Edu 73, 75). **Att:** 13,971.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 1 (Maeda 98)
KASHIMA ANTLERS 0. **Att:** 50,187.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS 4 (Fukuda 6 pen, 42 pen, 48, 82)
BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 1 (Betinho 40 pen). **Att:** 9,408.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 0
JUBILO IWATA 2 (Vanenburg 26, Aikayama 80 pen). **Att:** 8,597.

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 1 (Cerny 58 pen)
SHIMIZU S PULSE 3 (Torinho 18, 21, Sawanobori 87). **Att:** 10,308.

VERDY KAWASAKI 2 (Miura 67 pen, Takea 83)
GAMBA OSAKA 0. **Att:** 42, 161.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 3 (Diaz 13, 26, 86)
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 2 (Moriyama 24, Hirano 81). **Att:** 13,142.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16
KASHIMA ANTLERS 4 (Kurosaki 10, Hasegawa 61, Alcinda 66 pen, 85 pen)
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 2 (Fukuda 82, Ikeda 89). **Att:** 14,057.

JUBILO IWATA 1 (Matsuka og 38)
BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 2 (Mirandinha 79, 82). **Att:** 13,929.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 1 (Ordenewitz 89)
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 3 (Takagi 68, 70, Cerny 85) **Att:** 14,846.

GAMBA OSAKA 2 (Morioka 8, Isogai 49 pen)
YOHOHAMA MARINOS 3 (Diaz 12, 63, Medina Bello 20). **Att:** 21,307.

SHIMIZU S PULSE 2 (Horiike 46, Toninho 55)
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 1 (Jorginho 74). **Att:** 9,652.

VERDY KAWASAKI 0
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 1 (Amarilla 107). **Att:** 51,770.

Pay-for play gaining strength

MANY of Asia's soccer rulers are turning to professionalism as the game gains a hold on a huge potential audience.

The success of soccer in Japan, where it was virtually unknown a few years ago, showed the way forward.

Now China have opted for a professional set-up, Hong Kong plan to do the same, Bangladesh aim to go semi-pro, and Indonesia are to allow foreign players.

An uninspiring 1-1 draw between defending champions Liaoning and lowly Sichuan kicked off the new multi-million dollar, cigarette-sponsored Chinese professional league.

The competition runs until November, with a new format and stringent fitness requirements apparently the key differences.

Chinese officials, angered at their inability to qualify for recent world-class soccer events, are determined to launch the professional league as a means of improving soccer standards.

Now, with an undisclosed multi-million dollar deal from Philip Morris, the CFA are confident of qualifying for the 1998 World Cup, "although it will take us a lot longer before we win the competition," said one official.

The league used to be supported by central and local government hand-outs, but a 1991 FIFA report criticised the poor qualify of the schedule and said too little football was being played to improve the national team.

All 457 registered players at the 12 clubs had to take fitness tests in March and April, and several top Liaoning players missed the opening match after failing.

Foreign players are now allowed to take part in Indonesia's professional Galatama League, which began early this month. Each club within the franchise-based league will be allowed to recruit a maximum of three players, who need clearance from both the sports and finance ministries because of the foreign exchange implications.

Fit to drop . . . several Liaoning players missed the season's opener after failing tests.

Although the league is nominally professional, it lacks popular support and is widely accepted among fans, media and even officials as being at the mercy of corrupt gamblers.

A soccer competition run parallel with Indonesia's Galatama competition, the hugely-popular amateur President's Cup, was won by Persib-Bandung. They upset favourites and defending champions Ujung Pandung 2-0 in front of a 100,000 crowd in Jakarta's Senayan Stadium.

Persib scored in the 30th minute of both halves, to avenge their defeat by Ujung in last year's final

In Hong Kong, the biggest football clubs have voted for a fully professional league for the 1995-96 season, to replace their current semi-professional set-up, the oldest in Asia.

The British colony prides itself in being the first in the continent to have introduced expatriate pro players, back in 1970, but the bulk of the existing league continues to be made up of less well-paid local Chinese.

But the move to full professionalism means the end is near for several notable amateur clubs playing in the First Division.

An FA official said: "The professional clubs have always thought it was unfair. They invest a lot of money in players and pay wages, while amateur clubs pay nothing but still take a share of the match receipts."

The professional clubs who dominate football politics are yet to present a detailed proposal on how the new league would work.

In Bangladesh there's a belated move to get rid of age-old colonial endowment of major city-based leagues, where two or three popular clubs with a country-wide pool of supporters, dominated for a half century.

The Bangladesh FA have formed a three-member special committee to start a much needed semi-pro National League (B-League) by 1996.

In Bangladesh the Dhaka League has been dominated by Mohammedan SC, Abahani and Brothers Union.

Dates tangle

SCHEDULE problems relating to the World Cup have forced the Asian Football Confederation to bring forward the date of the annual club battle between the African and Asian champions.

The 1994 Afro-Asian Club Championship, between Al Ahli of Egypt and Thailand's Thai Farmers, will be played over two legs, May 27 in Cairo and Bangkok on June 11.

Thai Farmers stunned the Asian football world by becoming the first South-East Asian side to take the Asian Club Championship back in February, beating Verdy Kawasaki of Japan and Omani of Oman.

The Thais have real footballing flair, perhaps best personified in Sing Totavee.

Another less obvious advantage is their natural aptitude for playing on the mottled National Stadium surface in Bangkok.

SINGAPORE

Playing on in Perth

THE owner of one of the Australian teams in an innovative Asian soccer competition based around soccer clubs in Singapore has pledged his continued support, despite growing scepticism about the tournament.

Frank Schaper, owner of Perth Kangaroos, said far too much had been read into the recent postponement of a game in Perth featuring Singapore side Balestier United.

At the time a local paper headlined the story "Ticket farce rocks Singapore venture." Schaper said the postponement was simply caused by Balestier's inability to get air tickets to Australia.

"There is absolutely nothing to suggest that our venture might fold," he added.

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Al Qadisiyah's double job

SAUDI ARABIA'S Al Qadisiyah won the Asian Cup-winners Cup with a 2-0 victory over Hong Kong's South China team, to add to their 4-2 away win.

The aggregate win did little justice to South China's talents. The management opted for a dour face-saving mission in the second leg after being humbled in the opener.

South China's defence looked considerably better in the second match, under the guidance of Dutch keeper Werner Kooistra, ably supported by Marcel Liesdek in front of him.

South China created few chances, but did at least blunt the Saudi attacks until the 67th minute, when Kooistra brought down Saleh Al-Qanbar, who picked himself and scored from the penalty.

Twenty minutes later a deceptive lob from Arif Bourshaid enabled Gazi Assairi to outjump the defence and to loop the ball over Kooistra.

Al Qadisiyah's expatriate staff, including their coach, the former Czech national team captain Jan Pivarnik (left) and Brazilian Jose Carlos (above), were understandably jubilant at winning one of Asia's most prestigious competitions and a cheque for $50,000.

CHINA

Wusheng hoping

FORMER Olympic soccer coach Qi Wusheng has been appointed coach of the Chinese national team.

He replaces German Klaus Schlappner, who promised much when he took up the job two years ago but delivered little.

Schlappner's ground-breaking appointment was meant to herald a new era in Chinese football, but brought only a series of defeats in the AFC Marlboro Dynasty Cup and Asian Cup as well as defeat in the 1994 World Cup qualifiers.

Subsequently Chinese football slipped even further over allegations that members of two Chinese teams worked with Thai bookies to fix results in two Bangkok-hosted tournaments earlier this year.

Qi's first task will be preparing the side for October's Asian Games soccer competition.

INDIA

Bengal regain Santosh Trophy

BENGAL won the Indian national championship, for the Santosh Trophy, by beating Kerala 5-3 on penalties in the final, after a 2-2 draw.

This was the 50th edition of the competition, and Bengal's 24th success, but their first for five years. They also have been runners-up 10 times.

The five-group qualifying tournament, held at five venues in Cuttack, produced seven teams to join the five others exempt until the quarter-final stages, played in four groups of three. This resulted in Bengal and Punjab meeting in one semi-final, with Kerala and Orissa in the other.

Two goals by Sisir Ghosh, the second early in extra time, put Bengal through to face Kerala, who won 5-1 to reach the final for the seventh time in a row.

Once again, however, their luck ran out. They have won the trophy only twice in those years, three times in all, and this time they failed despite pulling back after conceding two goals in the first 12 minutes.

G. C. DAS

IRAQ

Zewra nearly there

ZEWRA are 99.99 per cent sure of winning the Iraq championship. With four games to play they need only one point to head off Air Force's challenge.

After losing 3-0 away to Ramady in the first round of the competition, Zewra have won 34 games and drawn the other 11, and have a goal difference of plus 70.

Defending champions Talaba are third on 70 points, one behind Air Force.

The Zewra coach, Ammo Baba Dawood, has built a very accomplished team, despite losing Ahmad Rahdi (right) and Layth Hussain, who joined Al Wekra in Qatar.

KAREEM MUHSIN

SANTOSH TROPHY

Quarter-finals

Group 1: Bengal 2 Tamil Nadu 0; Tamil Nadu 2 Railways 1; Bengal 3 Railways 0.

Group 2: Services 3 Maharashtra 1; Punjab 3 Services 0; Punjab 0 Maharashtra 0.

Group 3: Kerala 2 Goa 0; Manipur 2 Goa 0; Kerala 2 Manipur 0.

Group 4: Orissa 1 Karnataka 1; Orissa 4 Assam 2; Karnataka 3 Assam 2.

Semi-finals: Bengal 2 Punjab 1 (aet); Kerala 5 Orissa 1.

Final: Bengal 2 (Vijayan, Majhi) Kerala 2 (Pappachan, Ancheri).

Bengal won 5-3 on pens.

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global TRANSFERS

Moving . . . Guido Buchwald.

(Loan moves in italics)

Raimond **AUMANN***	G	Bayern Munich	Besiktas
Uwe **BEIN***	M	Eintracht Frankfurt	Urawa Red Diamonds
Guido **BUCHWALD***	D	VfB Stuttgart	Urawa Red Diamonds
CAPITON	M	Sao Paulo	Verdy Kawasaki
Julio **CESAR***	D	Juventus	Sporting Lisbon
Georges **GRUN***	D	Parma	Anderlecht
Ruud **GULLIT***	F	Sampdoria	Milan
Jean-Pierre **PAPIN***	F	Milan	Bayern Munich
Fernando **REDONDO***	M	Tenerife	Real Madrid
RIVALDO*	F	Mogi-Mirim (Bra)	PSV Eindhoven
Wolfgang **ROLFF***	M	Karlsruhe	Koln
Salvatore **SCHILLACI**	F	Internazionale	Jubilo Iwata (Jap)
Paulo **SOUSA***	M	Sporting Lisbon	Juventus
Reinhard **STUMPF***	D	Galatasaray	Koln

** = move to go through at end of season.*

OBITUARY

NIKOLAI KODRITZKY, who played for Bnei Yehuda in Israel's First Division, died in a road accident aged 31. His car overturned after hitting a crash barrier just north of Tel Aviv. Kodritzky joined Bnei Yehuda in 1991 and was second in the scorers' list with 20 goals.

DENER, the Vasco Da Gama and Brazil midfielder, died in a car crash aged 23. Dener was returning to Rio from Sao Paulo when his car — licence plate DNR 0010 [his name and shirt number] — hit a tree. Dener previously played for Portuguesa and Gremio, on loan, with whom he won the 1993 Rio Grande do Sul state championship. He was a fringe Brazil squad player, with an outside chance of making the final squad for US '94.

TUE 8 MAR

ACTION: France beat Russia 2-0 in a European Under-21 quarter-final opener ... England beat Denmark 1-0 in an Under-21 friendly at Brentford.

ARGENTINA: Buenos Aires newspapers report that Boca Juniors and coach Cesar Menotti are considering trying to lure Diego Maradona back out of his third retirement for the club he led to the 1981 domestic title.

CHINA: The Asian Confederation ask the Chinese FA to investigate charges of match-fixing levelled at the national team and champions Liaoning after allegations of a betting syndicate scam.

CROATIA: Vlatko Markovic's dismissal as national coach is confirmed by the FA but whether Tomislav Ivic or Luka Peruzovic takes over remains undecided.

HOLLAND: The KNVB propose that all clubs should transport fans by buses next season to cut down the number of travelling fans and their potential for hooliganism.

ITALY: Juventus club doctors say Roberto Baggio may need exploratory knee surgery to check out a knee injury he suffered in last week's 1-0 defeat in Cagliari.

GERMANY: Rot-Weiss Essen beat fellow Second Division side Tennis Borussia Berlin 2-0 in a German Cup semi-final.

WED 9 MAR

ACTION: England beat Denmark 1-0 to celebrate Terry Venables's debut as national coach . . . in World Cup warm-ups, Switzerland win 2-1 in Hungary, Norway win 3-1 in Wales and Nigeria are held goalless at home by Ghana . . . in the European Under-21 quarter-finals, Italy beat Czechoslovakia (still going!) by 3-0 and Poland lose 3-1 at home to Portugal . . . Cesar Menotti's Boca Juniors crash 6-1 to Palmeiras of Brazil in the South American Club Cup.

BRAZIL: World champions Sao Paulo crash 3-0 to provincial side Novorizontino in a Sao Paulo state league match. The result means a mini-crisis after a 1-0 home defeat by Bragantino and a 2-2 draw with Corinthians.

GERMANY: Werder Bremen, inspired by goals from Wynton Rufer and Frank Neubarth, beat Dynamo Dresden 2-0 in their German Cup semi-final.

PORTUGAL: The tax authorities seize the stadium of champions FC Porto because the club has yet to settle an £800,000 tax bill. Porto chairman Jorge Pinto Da Costa says he is surporised because we had been negotiating to try to reach an understanding.

SPAIN: Zaragoza beat Real Betis 3-1 (and 4-1 on aggregate) after extra-time in the second leg of their Cup semi-final return.

THU 10 MAR

ARGENTINA: River Plate recall World Cup keeper Sergio Goycochea after blunders by deputy Javier Sodero in the 5-3 defeat of Mandiyu.

GERMANY: Thomas Berthold *(below)* is recalled to the national squad three years after being dropped when he wrecked his own World Cup prospects with an expulsion against Wales which resulted in a five-match FIFA ban. He is in line to play against Italy on March 23, as is Werder Bremen's uncapped Mario Basler.

ITALY: Federation president Antonio Matarrese says investigations into Milan's alleged financial misdeeds are unlikely to lead to any more serious penalty than a fine. Milan's signing of Gianluigi Lentini from Torino two years ago is the central issue.

PORTUGAL: FC Porto's players train in the car park as the Das Antas stadium remains padlocked by the tax authorities. Porto president Pinto da Costa accuses the authorities of discriminating against his club. He says Benfica owe the same amount as Porto — almost £4million — but had been allowed to pay in stages, while Sporting owe more than £7million but have suffered no punitive measures . . . Pacos de Ferreira re-hire former trainer Jaime Pacheco, who left last year to return to playing for Braga; bottom club Estoril dismiss coach Fernando Santos; and Braga dismiss trainer Antonio Oliveira — the ninth coaching change in the top division this season.

SOUTH AFRICA: Clive Barker, 49-year-old former coach to AmaZulu, is appointed coach of the South African national team.

SPAIN: Uruguayan Hector Nunez quits Valencia, the third coach to go this season after Guus Hiddink and Francisco Leal. Hiddink's old No. 2, Jose Manuel Rielo, is named caretaker.

FRI 11 MAR

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona undergoes a medical examination as part of the investigation into his alleged shooting at journalists with an air rifle. The examination was ordered by investigating Judge Franciso Lillo.

GERMANY: Koln agree to sign Wolfgang Rolff from Karlsruhe and Reinhard Stump from Galatasaray at the end of the season.

HOLLAND: Ajax's top scorer Jari Litmanen is ruled out for up to a month after injuring a thigh muscle in training.

ITALY: Jean-Pierre Papin says that he does, after all, want to leave Milan at the season's end and he understands the club want to transfer him . . . a former bodyguard of Diego Maradona, giving evidence in the (non-appearing) Argentina star's trial on drugs charges, accuses him of having smuggled cocaine, and fixed matches.

PORTUGAL: FC Porto president Jorge Pinto da Costa says he will refuse to pay any of the money the club owe in back taxes as long as the club's Estadio das Antas is still remaining within the control of the tax sequestrators.

SAT 12 MAR

ACTION: The United States are held 1-1 by South Korea in Fullerton, California . . . German league leaders Bayern Munich extend their winning run to four games with a 3-1 victory at Wattenscheid. Eintracht Frankfurt are second after Friday's 2-0 win over Bayer Leverkusen . . . Benfica thrash Famalicao 8-0 in Portugal with two goals from Sergei Yuran and two own goals by Carlos Celestino . . . recalled Robert Prosinecki scores twice to thank caretaker coach Vicente Del Bosque as Real Madrid beat Rayo Vallecano 5-2; Romario scores three goals and Hristo Stoichkov two as Barcelona thrash Atletico Madrid 5-3.

ENGLAND: Norway defender Tore Pedersen is ruled out of the World Cup finals after wrecking knee ligaments in Oldham's 1-0 defeat of Bolton in the FA Cup quarter-finals . . . Denmark goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel is sent off for deliberate hanbdball as Manchester United beat Charlton 3-1 in the day's other quarter-final.

GERMANY: The Third Division match between Sachsen Leipzig and FSV Zwickau is halted for 10 minutes after Sachsen fans attack and knock unconscious Jens Leonhardt of Zwickau as he prepares to take a throw-in.

SUN 13 MAR

ACTION: AEK Athens beat Iraklis 1-0 with a goal from Croat striker Zoran Sliskovic to extend to seven points their lead over Panathinaikos, Aris Salonica and Olympiakos . . . Milan move eight points clear in Italy by defeating second-place Sampdoria 1-0 with a headed goal from Massaro . . . four players are sent off, two apiece, as Sporting draw 0-0 with Uniao Madeira in Portugal . . . La Coruna miss a penalty and slip back in the Spanish title race by drawing 0-0 at Osasuna, which leaves them only two points ahead of Barcelona.

MON 14 MAR

ARGENTINA: Maradona is, after all, named in Argentina's squad to play Brazil on March 23 despite having been sacked by Newell's Old Boys.

BELGIUM: Antwerp's Croat-born striker, Josip Weber, becomes formally eligible for World Cup selection as a newly-confirmed Belgian national.

CAMEROON: Roger Milla, who quit Tonnerre a week earlier after club president Pierre Semengue ordered to stop undermining the position of coach Jenner Olinga, apologises and rejoins the squad.

ENGLAND: Arsenal are cleared by the Premier League to revert to 1-11 numbering, a move which almost certainly heralds the abandonment of the unpopular squad-number system.

TEAM OF THE MONTH

MANCHESTER UNITED . . .

for their dramatically successful conclusion to the season

SWITZERLAND: UEFA are forced to give in to television pressure and agree to allow half-time interviews with managers and coaches in European competition games.

TUE 15 MAR

ACTION: Israel beat Ukraine 1-0 . . . Arsenal, Benfica and Paris Saint Germain qualify for the semi-finals of the Cup-winners Cup; Cagliari and Austria Salzburg reach the semis of the UEFA Cup.

GERMANY: Cup finalists Rot-Weiss Essen, from the Second Division, are sentenced to the loss of their professional licence at the season's end and mandatory relegation to the amateur league as punishment for trying to hide the size of their debts.

GREECE: Panathinaikos sack Ivica Osim and appoint Argentinian Juan Ramon Rocha as caretaker to the end of the season.

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona, on his lawyers' advice, refuses to answer questions on his court appearance to answer charges of firing an air rifle at reporters.

FRANCE: Manchester United's Eric Cantona is signed up as a World Cup TV analyst by public channels *France* and *France 3* . . . Claude Simonet, new president of the Federation, says new hearings will be held next month in a bid to resolve the Valenciennes-Marseille bribery scandal once and for all though punishments will not be handed down until the end of May.

WED 16 MAR

ACTION: Egypt and Cameroon draw 0-0 in Cairo . . . Barcelona thrash Moscow Spartak 5-1 in the Champions League Group A while Milan stay top in Group B after a 1-1 draw away to Werder Bremen.

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona says he has his passport back and has been granted a visa to enter the United States for the World Cup finals.

BELGIUM: Eric Gerets says he will quit as coach of FC Liege at the end of this season. He has been linked with Standard Liege and Willem II.

BRAZIL: Brazil name a near-full-strength squad for the friendly against Argentina. Only Jorginho and Taffarel are missing.

BULGARIA: Levski beat Slavia 4-1 to go 12pts clear at the top.

GREECE: Panathinaikos, revived after the dismissal of coach Ivica Osim, beat Iraklis 3-0 (and 3-0 on agg) in the second leg of a Cup semi-final. Champions and league leaders AEK beat Aris Salonika 2-1 (2-1 agg) in the other tie.

ISRAEL: Former Kiev Dynamo player Nikolai Kudritski, who had been playing for Bnei Yehuda, is killed when his car overturns after hitting a crash barrier just north of Tel Aviv.

WALES: John Toshack quits as Wales manager after one match and 47 days in the job.

THU 17 MAR

ACTION: Borussia Dortmund win 2-1 away to Inter in the UEFA Cup but Inter win the quarter-final 4-2 on aggregate.

MALAYSIA: Asian Confederation secretary Peter Velappan says that a multi-national betting syndicate is offering players in Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia up to £150,000 to fix results of important matches.

RUSSIA: Moscow Dynamo midfielder Dmitry Karsakov is ruled out for six months with jaundice. Karsakov will spend three weeks in hospital.

FRI 18 MAR

SWITZERLAND: The draw for the Cup-winners Cup semi-finals matches Paris Saint Germain against Arsenal and Benfica against title-holders Parma. In the UEFA Cup, Austria Salzburg are drawn against Karlsruhe; the other tie is an all-Italian matter between Cagliari and Internazionale.

SAT 19 MAR

ACTION: Eric Cantona is sent off for stamping on rival forward John Moncur as Manchester United are held 2-2 by bottom club Swindon Town in the Premiership . . . Marseille beat Monaco on penalties in the third round of the French Cup . . . Eintracht Frankfurt pick up form in Germany, to keep the pressure on Bayern, by winning 4-0 away to Dresden.

SUN 20 MAR

ACTION: Juventus recover from their midweek upset in the UEFA Cup to thrash Parma 4-0 with a hat-trick from injured Roberto Baggio's deputy, Alessandro Del Piero . . . Atletico Madrid dismiss coach Iselin Ovejero after a 4-0 home defeat by Zaragoza.

MON 21 MAR

ACTION: Japan lose 2-1 at home to Iceland in Utsunomiya.

BRAZIL: Brazil call up Sao Paulo forward Muller to replace injured Romario for the friendly against Argentina — who arrive in Rio de Janeiro without Diego Maradona.

FRANCE: Former Bordeaux president Claude Bez is sentenced to a two-year jail term for fraud, with one year suspended. A local court also fines him £200,000 after being found guilty of embezzling £1million from a contract to build a new club training centre. The court found that estimates for the work had been artificially inflated by £1million to £5.4million to attract bigger local government subsidies and the extra cash had been diverted into club funds. Bez's son Eric, who was in charge of the building project, and two local businessmen, are cleared of all charges.

GERMANY: Britta Steilmann, 28, is elected president of Wattenscheid, the first woman on the board of a Bundesliga club. She is a fashion designer and daughter of the club's main sponsor, Klaus Steilmann, a local clothes manufacturer . . . the offices of the Berlin Federation has ➢

WHAT'S ON

MAY

FRIDAY, MAY 13
International: Greece v Bolivia (Athens).

SUNDAY, MAY 15
International: US v Armenia (Fullerton), Bolivia v Cameroon (Athens).

TUESDAY, MAY 17
Internationals: England v Greece, Poland v Austria.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18
Champions Cup Final: Barcelona v Milan (Athens).

THURSDAY, MAY 19
International: Iceland v Bolivia (Reykjavik).

FRIDAY, MAY 20
International: Republic of Ireland v France (Dublin).

SATURDAY, MAY 21
Internationals: US v Bayern Munich (Cleveland), Romania v Cameroon.

SUNDAY, MAY 22
International: England v Norway (Wembley). **Kirin Cup:** Japan v Argentina (Hiroshima).

TUESDAY, MAY 24
International: Republic of Ireland v Bolivia.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25
Internationals: Holland v Scotland (Utrecht), US v Saudi Arabia . **Kirin Cup:** Argentina v France (Tokyo).

THURSDAY, MAY 26
Kirin Cup: France v Argentina (Kobe).

FRIDAY, MAY 27
International: Italy v Finland (Parma).

SATURDAY, MAY 28
Internationals: US v Greece (New Haven), Czech Republic v Nigeria, Switzerland v Liechtenstein (St Gallen).

MONDAY, MAY 29
Internationals: Germany v Republic of Ireland (Hannover), Russia v Slovakia (Moscow), Chile v Bolivia (Santiago). **Kirin Cup:** Japan v France (Tokyo).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31
International: Israel v Argentina (Jerusalem).

JUNE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1
Internationals: Norway v Denmark (Oslo), Canada v Morocco (Morocco), Holland v Hungary (Eindhoven), Belgium v Nigeria (Brussels).

THURSDAY, JUNE 2
Internationals: Austria v Germany (Vienna), Finland v Spain (Tampere), Latvia v Malta (Riga).

FRIDAY, JUNE 3
Internationals: Italy v Switzerland (Rome), Colombia v Northern Ireland (Foxboro).

SATURDAY, JUNE 4
Internationals: Belgium v Tunisia (Brussels), Turkey v Morocco, Argentina v Switzerland, US v Mexico (Pasadena).

SUNDAY, JUNE 5
Internationals: Republic of Ireland v Saudi Arabia, Sweden v Norway (Stockholm), Canada v Brazil (Edmonton, Alberta), Colombia v Greece (Giants Stadium, New York).

TUESDAY, JUNE 7
International: Bolivia v Chile (Santa Cruz).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8
Internationals: Canada v Germany (Toronto), Belgium v Hungary (Brussels), Norway v Denmark, Trinidad & Tobago v Saudi Arabia.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10
International: Canada v Spain (Montreal).

SATURDAY, JUNE 11
Internationals: Italy v Costa Rica (New Haven), Bolivia v Switzerland (Montreal), Costa Rica v Italy.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12
Internationals: Canada v Holland (Toronto), Brazil v Honduras (San Francisco), Sweden v Romania (Vancouver).

windows smashed by militant opponents of the forthcoming Germany v England match.

ITALY: Judicial sources say state prosecutors investigating the affairs of Torino, £20million in debt, are set to call for the club to be declared bankrupt. The two past presidents, Gianmauro Borsano and Roberto Goveani, also have been notified of pending charges of fraudulent bankruptcy.

TUE 22 MAR

ACTION: France beat Chile 3-1 in Lyon: Jean-Pierre Papin takes time off from denying an imminent move to Tottenham to mark his 50th cap with France's opening goal.

BELGIUM: FC Liege, one of Belgium's oldest clubs, are revealed as facing bankruptcy with debts of £2.5million.

FRANCE: Joao Havelange tells *L'Equipe*, in an interview, of his anger at the campaign to unseat him as FIFA president. Havelange says he wants to stand again in June and then retire in 1998. He also says it is wrong that the presidency should be up for renewal always in World Cup year.

HOLLAND: The government suggests that a reduction in the number of professional clubs would reduce the amount of hooliganism.

ITALY: Milan's French striker Jean-Pierre Papin rules out a move to English club Tottenham this season.

WED 23 MAR

ACTION: Germany beat Italy 2-1; a weakened Irish Republic are held 0-0 by Russia in Dublin; Morocco win 2-1 in Luxembourg; Greece are held 0-0 at home by Poland; the continent's oldest duel, between Austria and Hungary, ends 1-1 with three players sent off; Holland win 1-0 in Scotland; Brazil defeat Argentina 2-0 with two goals from Bebeto . . . Italy, France, Spain and Portugal qualify for the European Under-21 semi-finals.

FRANCE: Bernard Tapie wins his appeal against the original court order that he should quit as president of Marseille by April 20 then says he will probably sell up at the end of the season anyway . . . Switzerland keeper Joel Corminboeuf, of Strasbourg, is ruled out of the rest of the season.

THU 24 MAR

ENGLAND: Arsenal sell Sweden winger Anders Limpar to Everton for £1.6million.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA select Athens as venue for the Champions Cup Final and Copenhagen for the Cup-winners Cup Final.

FRI 25 MAR

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona says that, although he will miss the match against Brazil, he hopes to line up against Morocco on April 20 now his special training schedule is bearing results, with 12kilos lost already.

ITALY: Ottavio Bianchi quits as general manager-cum-coach of Napoli amid speculation that he is top target for Inter.

SAT 26 MAR

ACTION: Hosts Tunisia suffer a disastrous defeat on the opening day of the African Nations Cup, losing 2-0 to Mali; World Cup finalists Nigeria beat Gabon 3-0 . . . the United States draw 2-2 with Bolivia . . . Sweden striker Martin Dahlin scores his first hat-trick in Germany as Borussia Monchengladbach hammer VfB Leipzig 6-1.

PLAYER OF THE MONTH

ANDERSON 'SONNY' DA SILVA . . .

for scoring the goals which have taken troubled Marseille back into Europe next season and to the brink of the French Cup Final

SOUTH KOREA: Yukong Elephants beat hosts POSCO Atoms 3-1 in the opening match of the domestic championship.

SUN 27 MAR

ACTION: In the African finals, Ivory Coast beat Sierra Leone 4-0 and Ghana beat Guinea 1-0 . . . champions River Plate open the new Argentine league with a 2-1 home defeat by Banfield . . . Aston Villa beat Manchester United 3-1 in the League Cup Final . . . Bayern Munich win 2-1 away to Hamburg to go two points clear of Frankfurt in Germany . . . Ajax stay top in Holland despite losing 2-1 away to second-placed Feyenoord . . . Milan lose 1-0 to Napoli and are publicly criticised by coach Fabio Capello for relaxing . . . no change in Spain as La Coruna beat Bilbao 4-1 with two goals from Bebeto, following up his midweek double for Brazil against Argentina.

COLOMBIA: Carlos Valderrama, captain of Colombia, will not now return to action for another month because his injured knee is taking longer to recover than expected, says the specialist who operated after his injury against Sweden in February.

MON 28 MAR

ACTION: In the African finals, Zaire beat Mali 1-0 and Gabon are eliminated after crashing 4-0 to Egypt.

FRANCE: Bernard Tapie confirms he has been charged with fraud and embezzlement relating to the accounts of Marseille, particularly transfers, going back to 1990.

ITALY: Inter appoint Ottavio Bianchi (late of Napoli) as coach for next season and announce the impending departures of internationals Toto Schillaci (to Jubilo Iwata of Japan), Walter Zenga, Riccardo Ferri and Giuseppe Bergomi.

TUNISIA: Hosts Tunisia dismiss coach Youssef Zouaoui in the wake of Saturday's 2-0 defeat by Mali. He is replaced by Fawzi Benzarti.

UNITED STATES: A New York judge supports the complaint by World Cup sponsors MasterCard against Sprint Communications' agreement with the US World Cup organisers to use the World Cup logo on its telephone cards.

TUE 29 MAR

ACTION: Cup-winners Cup holders Parma lose 2-1 to Benfica in a semi-final first leg; Paris Saint Germain are held 1-1 at home by Arsenal . . . in the UEFA Cup, Austria Salzburg are held 0-0 at home by Karlsruhe.

ITALY: Lazio president Sergio Cragnotti tries to quell speculation over the future of Paul Gascoigne by saying Gascoigne can have a great future with Lazio and that he hopes he will stay for life. Cragnotti also confirms he is to hand over the presidency to Dino Zoff.

CAYMAN ISLANDS: Cuba goalkeeper Noel Arguelles is refused an asylum request by government officials after arriving at a tent camp for refugees.

WED 30 MAR

ACTION: Hosts Tunisia are eliminated in the first round of the African Nations finals after being held 1-1 by Zaire, who qualify for the quarter-finals from Group A along with Mali; Nigeria and Egypt, who had already qualified for the quarter-finals, draw 0-0 . . . Barcelona, Monaco, Milan and FC Porto — shock 5-0 winners away to Werder Bremen — qualify for the semi-finals of the Champions League . . . Cagliari beat Inter 3-2 in their all-Italian UEFA Cup semi-final . . . Palmeiras of Brazil have three players sent off in five minutes as they lose 2-1 to Boca Juniors in Buenos Aires in a group two tie in the Libertadores Cup.

BOLIVIA: Top clubs The Strongest and Bolivar defy a Federation edict and say they will refuse to release their international players to join a three-week camp in April to organise national squad preparations for the World Cup finals.

THU 31 MAR

ACTION: Zambia beat holders Ivory Coast 2-1 in African Group C but both qualify anyway for the quarter-finals; in Group D, Ghana beat Senegal 1-0 in another duel between prospective quarter-finalists.

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona says he is consulting his psychologist on whether to retire. He says he has had an offer to attend the World Cup finals as a TV analyst.

AUSTRIA: Rapid Vienna's Russian midfielder Sergei Mandreko says he will leave at the season's end because of the club's financial problems.

FRANCE: Paris Saint Germain coach Artur Jorge imposes a media silence in protest at criticism in the press of his league leaders' safety-first style.

HOLLAND: Coach Hans Westerhof, sacked earlier this season by PSV Eindhoven, will return this summer to Groningen.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA's execu-

FRI 1 APR

ITALY: Arrigo Sacchi names named uncapped Lazio defender Paolo Negro in a squad of 19 for a World Cup training camp.

SWEDEN: The Swedish FA names Helsingborg, Vasteras, Karlstad, Gavle and the Rasunda stadium in Stockholm as proposed venues for next year's Women's World Cup.

UNITED STATES: Stanford University confirms that their pitch will need to withstand a graduation ceremony 12 days before Brazil kick off against Russia.

"I'd love to come up and see your etchings, Eric...but they just launched loaded"

FREE! WITH ISSUE 2
32-page SEX supplement
GAGGING FOR IT!

FOR MEN WHO SHOULD KNOW BETTER
At your newsagents from May 11th

WorldCup USA94™

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£1,500 WORLD CUP COMPETITION!

US Gold are releasing the only official World Cup computer game — *World Cup USA 94* — to coincide with this summer's World Cup finals in the USA.

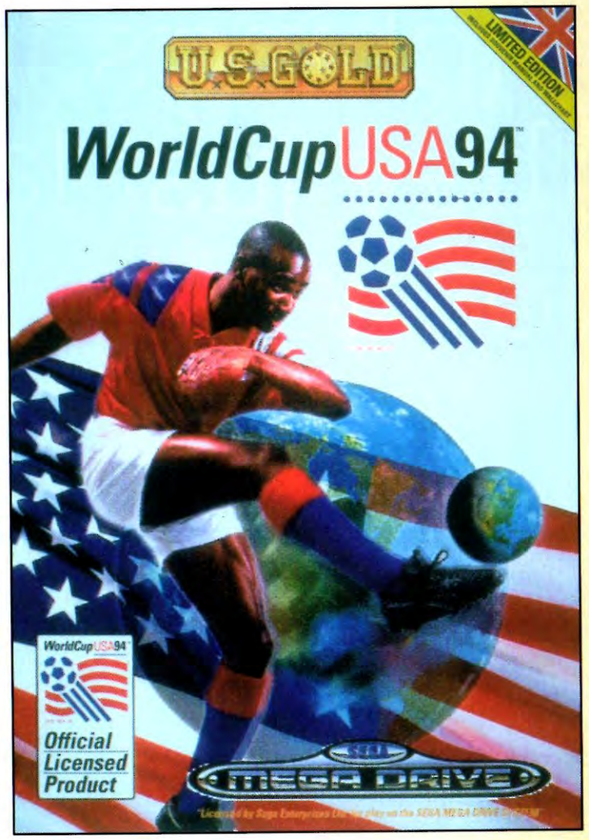
The game makes history by being the first to be released on *nine* formats: Sega Game Gear, Sega Master System, Sega Mega Drive, Sega Mega-CD, Nintendo Gameboy, Super Nintendo Entertainment System, Amiga PC, IBM PC compatibles and PC CD-ROM.

The game features all 24 finalists and you can even add eight new teams if you wish — useful given that England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland all failed to qualify!

World Cup USA 94 features 3,000 frames of animation and allows different skill modes. The control system enables the players to perform overhead, bicycle and scissor kicks, one-handed saves, traps, volleys, headers, tackles, dribbles . . . the lot!

The whole game can be edited allowing you to change just about everthing including the teams taking part, the colour of the referees' jerseys, the weather, team formations, dead-ball tactics and the team strips. All in all, *World Cup USA 94* promises to be *the* computer football game of the summer.

And if you'd like a copy then now's your chance. *WORLD SOCCER* and US Gold have got together for this special competition, with bundles of great prizes on offer.



First prize is a bumper US Gold/*World Cup USA 94* official merchandise package containing:

- **A TRACK SUIT**
- **A BASEBALL JACKET**
- **A BASEBALL CAP**
- **A T-SHIRT**
- **A COPY OF WORLD CUP USA 94**

There are also 10 runners-up prize sets comprising a T-shirt, cap and pin set.

To win, simply answer the question below and send your answer, on a postcard, together with your name, address and format required to: US Gold Competition, *WORLD SOCCER*, 25th floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. The closing date for the competition is June 15. All usual IPC Magazines competition rules apply.

QUESTION: not really a question at all, more of a challenge. As we've said, *World Cup USA 94* permits you to enter up to eight teams who did not reach the finals in reality, allowing you to make sure your favourite team are in with a chance.

For this competition, we want you to name a team of eleven players who will NOT be going to the World Cup finals this summer (i.e. players representing countries other than the 24 finalists). The entries which match our selection most closely will win the prizes.

To make things slightly less complicated, we can reveal that we will select a 4-4-2 formation, so that gives you a small insight into our thinking.

TV

SKY SPORTS

SUNDAY 15 MAY
08.30.....FUTBOL MUNDIAL MAGAZINE

MONDAY 16 MAY
22.00.....FORD MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL SPECIAL
01.30.....FORD MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL SPECIAL

TUESDAY 17 MAY
19.00.....INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL — England v Greece — Live
24.30.....INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL — England v Greece

WEDNESDAY 18 MAY
19.00.....FUTBOL MUNDIAL MAGAZINE
24.00.....FUTBOL MUNDIAL MAGAZINE

FRIDAY 20 MAY
09.30.....FUTBOL MUNDIAL MAGAZINE

SATURDAY 21 MAY
15.00.....FA CHALLENGE TROPHY FINAL — LIVE

SUNDAY 22 MAY
08.30.....FA CHALLENGE TROPHY FINAL
14.15.....INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL — England v Norway — Live

MONDAY 23 MAY
13.00.....INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL — England v Norway

TUESDAY 24 MAY
22.00.....FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

WEDNESDAY 25 MAY
12.00.....FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
23.30.....FUTBOL MUNDIAL MAGAZINE
24.00.....FRENCH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FRIDAY 27 MAY
09.30.....FUTBOL MUNDIAL MAGAZINE
18.00.....FRENCH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

TUESDAY 31 MAY
22.00.....FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

EUROSPORT

FRIDAY 13 MAY
11.00.....ROAD TO THE WORLD CUP

MONDAY 16 MAY
14.00.....UEFA CUP FINAL — Highlights from the second leg.
22.00.....EUROGOALS

TUESDAY 17 MAY
12.00.....EUROGOALS
17.30 .....EUROGOALS

WEDNESDAY 18 MAY
22.00.....CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL

THURSDAY 19 MAY
11.00.....CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL — Highlights
21.00.....ROAD TO THE WORLD CUP

FRIDAY 20 MAY
11.00.....ROAD TO THE WORLD CUP

SATURDAY 21 MAY
08.00.....CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL — Highlights

MONDAY 23 MAY
22.00.....EUROGOALS

TUESDAY 24 MAY
09.00.....EUROGOALS
19.00.....EUROGOALS

MONDAY 30 MAY
22.00.....EUROGOALS

WORLDWIDE QUIZ

CONGRATULATIONS to **Russell Ong** of London, who is the winner of the May Worldwide Quiz. A copy of the ***Guinness Football Fact Book*** is on its way.

If you'd like to win a copy, simply answer this month's questions, and put them on a *postcard*, together with your name and address. Your entries, to the usual address, should reach us by June 10.

QUESTIONS

1. Who played in the first FA Cup Final staged at Wembley and later managed a club when they beat his former club in another final?

2. Sandro Mazzola made his senior debut for Internazionale in 1961. Which celebrated Juventus player made his final appearance in the same game?

3. Name the player who scored three goals in a French Cup Final during the 1980s, and later missed a penalty.

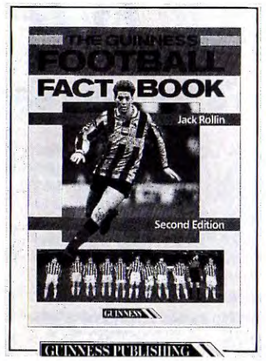
4. Which club won a Scottish League Cup Final 4-1, and lost 7-2 in a League game a week later?

5. In one recent season he was second top scorer in the Football League, although his club finished 20th. What is his name?

6. Which club would you be writing to if you sent a letter to Papiermuhlestrasse 71?

7. The first Englishman to score in a Fairs Cup Final was . . . who?

8. Name the club who knocked Barcelona out of last season's European Champions Cup, then finished bottom of their group in the Champions League.



9. Eduardo Bennett, who plays for San Lorenzo in Argentina, is an international striker. For which country?

10. Who was the last player to finish on the losing side after scoring for his country in a European Championship Final?

MAY ANSWERS

1. Notts County. **2.** Ron Saunders (Norwich City, Manchester City, Aston Vila). **3.** Italy. **4.** Austria Vienna. **5.** Sammy Lee. **6.** Real Madrid, who won the 1985 UEFA Cup after losing 5-1 to Borussia Monchengladbach but won the tie on penalties. **7.** Floriana of Malta. **8.** Everton (four FA Cup, one League Cup, one Full Members Cup). **9.** Cowdenbeath. **10.** Jimmy Mullen of Wolves, the youngest semi-finalist ever in 1939.

lotto X WORD

LAST MONTH'S WINNER:
Mr M. Downey of Doncaster

LAST MONTH'S SOLUTION

Across: 2 Dudelange, 6 Hamar, 7 Ogris, 9 Dallas, 10 Ball, 12 Doll, 14 Basile, 17 Evani, 18 Ielpo, 19 Palmeiras
Down: 1 Tchadadzae, 2 Demol, 3 Durban, 4 Lyon, 5 Norma, 8 Silkeborg, 11 Napier, 13 Lyall, 15 Illes, 16 Nice.

Compiled by Christine Ansell

WIN

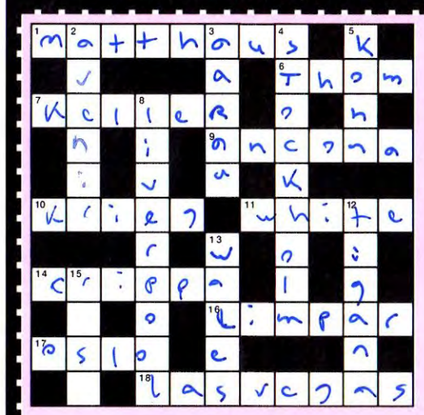
A Lotto Football — for the first correct entry. Fill in this month's crossword and send it, by June 10, to:

***WORLD SOCCER CROSSWORD* (JUNE),**
King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

ACROSS
1 .....European Footballer of the Year, 1990 (8)
6 .....Dynamo Berlin and Leverkusen forward capped by the GDR and Germany (4)
7 .....US 'keeper contracted to Millwall (6)
9 .....Italian club from the Conero — in Serie A, 1992-93 (6)
10 .....Karlsruhe goalscorer, Rainer (5)
11 .....Real Madrid's club colour (5)
14 .....Former Napoli midfield stalwart serving Parma (6)
16 .....Everton's Swede recruited from Arsenal (6)
17 .....European capital represented by SKF Lyn (4)
18 .....City which staged the draw for the 1994 World Cup finals (3,5)

DOWN
2 .....Luxembourg's 'double' winners of 1993 (6)
3 .....1993 Swiss League champions (5)
4 .....City in which the Rasunda Stadium is sited (9)
5 .....Ex-Bochum and Germany U-21 striker in Werder's '93 squad (4)
8 .....British club managed by Roy Evans (9)
12 .....Former French midfield star who followed Domenech as Lyon coach (6)
13 .....National side briefly managed by Sociedad's Toshack (5)
15 .....Ex-Huddersfield boss back in Iceland in charge of Keflavik (4)

JUNE



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Double take for United

Ferguson's forces ready to invade Europe

ALEX FERGUSON already knows the first signing who will launch Manchester United on the attempt to regain the Champions Cup they won 26 years ago.

The new arrival is not a superstar striker but Fred the Red, a fluffy toy kitted out in United strip and whose arrival as mascot on all manner of United merchandising will further enhance what promises to be a goldmine of a 1994-95 season both on and off the pitch.

Old favourite Denis Law is one of many who believes in United's European destiny. He thinks that the failure last autumn against Galatasaray may act as a crucial spur to help United dominate at home and abroad as no other British club have done before. Not even Liverpool.

In the wake of United's second successive championship success and with the possibility of the League and FA Cup double around the corner, Law said: "Whatever people say about the difficulty of winning the league championship and then retaining it, the measure of true greatness for a football team is to win the European Cup. I think the biggest disappointment this past season at Old Trafford was going out in the second round to Galatasaray — though, I must say, I doubt whether United would have been able to hold off Blackburn in the Premiership and get to the two domestic Cup finals had they had been under fixture pressure in Europe as well.

"Losing to the Turks might well have been a blessing in disguise because I know how upset the players and manager will have felt. Back in 1966, 'my' United lost to a poor Partizan Belgrade team in the Champions Cup semi-finals. We had been desperate to reach the final — and, of course, we won it the next year. The one thing I can say from my own experience is that defeats like that don't so much haunt you as inspire you to win the right to prove yourself beyond doubt on a world stage."

Chairman Martin Edwards expects a cash windfall of at least £2million from participation in Europe next season. But that should prove a conservative estimate bearing in mind the hidden benefits of Champions League participation. It works like this: competing in the Champions League provides the super-club finance which clubs can invest in more and better players, thus maintaining their domestic domination and returning to Europe . . . and on, and on. The perfect soccer circle.

United earned more than £7millon last year with the completion of the redevelopment of Old Trafford as one of the finest stadia in Europe. It may not compare, in capacity terms, with Barcelona, Madrid, Milan, Munich or Lisbon. But United's turnover has passed the £25million mark, and will be closer to £30million for this past season. They have the biggest membership in English football, a huge merchandising operation and massive corporate entertaining facilities.

But it could have been even more. Had they qualified for the mid-season Champions League, United would have added an extra £1.27million for merely being there plus up to £2.6million in points bonuses, around £1.5million from gate receipts and maybe £2million more from reaching the semi-finals and final.

Those figures will certainly grow next season when UEFA unveil the reshaped Champions League, into which United are almost certain to be seeded direct under a new format designed to exploit the commercial markets of Germany, Spain, France, Italy and England which generate 90 per cent of UEFA's television income.

The original European Cup for Champion Clubs was built up on the basis of a direct elimination, "cup" format. Teams played each other, round by round, until only two remained to contest the final.

The CHAMPIONS LEAGUE abolished the old quarter and semi-finals and introduced two mini-league groups of four teams, playing each other home and away.

In 1992-93 the winners of the groups moved direct to the final; in 1993-94 semi-finals were reintroduced to extend the competitive element of the mini-leagues so that two teams went forward from each group.

The new concept of the Champions League, however, not only introduces four groups of four teams into the equation, but alters the order of the competitive sequence. Thus a preliminary knock-out round will be played in August, the four Champions League groups from September to December, and then the competition steps back into line with the Cup-winners Cup and the UEFA Cup with quarter and semi-finals in the spring (March to April).

The champion clubs of UEFA's members will be ranked according to their coefficients, the five-year form guide used in the competition seeding process. The top eight clubs will be seeded direct to the four mini-leagues. The next 16 clubs will be paired in a preliminary knock-out round to take place in August. The teams will play each other home and away and the eight winners will then be added to the mini-leagues.

The group matches will be staged through the autumn on Wednesdays, fixed according to UEFA's competitive schedule. To assist the prestige — and commercial opportunities available — Wednesdays will be kept clear for Champions League matches only. Tuesday has been designated the official day/night for UEFA Cup matches with Thursday set aside for the Cup-winners Cup.

At the end of the group matches the top two teams in each group will go forward to the direct elimination quarter-finals for the concluding stages.

They could include United if Ferguson's men manage to capitalise, at second time of asking, on their second Premier title. Ironically, United did not have to lift a toe: it was all down, on the night, to Blackburn's 2-1 defeat at Coventry.

Manchester United captain Steve Bruce was out buying champagne as a goal from midfielder Julian Darby finally finished Rovers. It was not that United's team captain was over-confident — just that he could not bear to sit at home watching the match on TV. At least he was back in front of the set, along with Peter Schmeichel and Paul Parker, to raise his glass at the final whistle.

Bruce said: "I had to go out to buy the champagne, I couldn't bear to watch it. I remember watching the deciding match on television last season and the sweat was just running down my face and dripping off my chin. I could not go through that again. It's a great thrill and a fantastic achievement for everyone at the club in retaining the title. When you are the defending champions you are up there to be shot at and everyone wants to beat you.

"All credit to Blackburn because they pushed us hard. I know how they feel because we were in that position two years ago."

Dalglish paid generous credit to his old rivals, saying: "This is the first time Blackburn have qualified for Europe and the first time I have taken a team into Europe as a manager but United deserved the title. We did our best. We took four points from six off them but unfortunately we didn't get enough help from other people."

Ferguson did not watch Blackburn's crucial defeat, either. Instead he took his family out for Chinese meal in London to celebrate the birth of his first grandson, Jake. He said: "It's a real double celebration. The fact that so few clubs retain the title shows just how hard it is.

"It is a tribute to the qualities of my side and how well we have performed.

"We have been the best team all season and the players have deserved this championship. Playing the way we have done, playing such attacking football shows that they deserve it for their adventure and style."

Midfielder Paul Ince returned the compliment, saying: "I'm especially pleased for the boss. People have thrown a lot at him but he has taken it on the chin and kept going. He has protected the players, kept calm, kept his nerve and guided us there. I'm also delighted for Eric Cantona. He has been the subject of so much stick but he kept his head up. When he came back he added an extra dimension again."

Cantona's shining talent - marred only by the occasional temperamental excess - was complemented by the precocious brilliance of 20-year-old Ryan Giggs, the darting wing-play of Ukrainian Andrei Kanchelskis and the superb finishing of Mark Hughes.

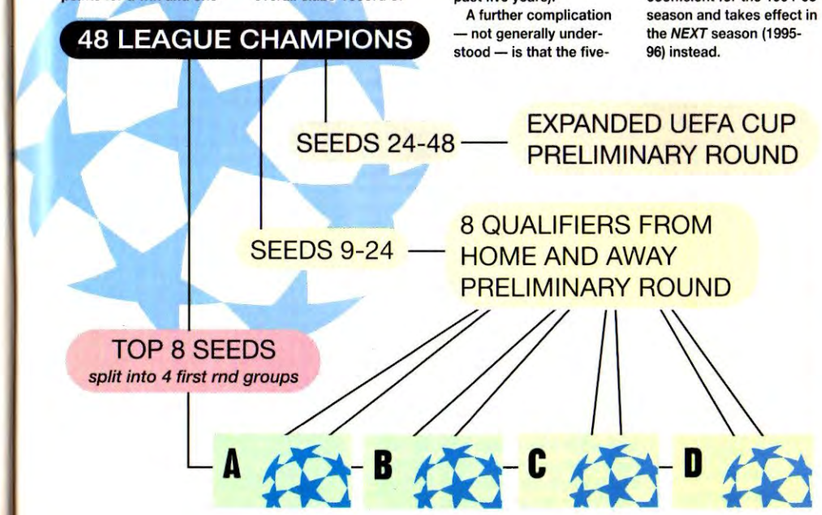
Ince and Roy Keane, and latterly Lee Sharpe and occasionally the veteran Bryan Robson dominated games in the middle while, in the centre of defence, Bruce held firm under pressure . . . except, of course, when it came to sitting in front of his own television.

RINO LANDA

CLUBS entering the Champions League/Cup next season will be graded according to their coefficient. This is the average number of points they have gained per match in Europe over the past five seasons, on a basis of two points for a win and one for a draw plus a bonus point for reaching quarter-final, semi-final and final rounds. The total number of points is divided by the number of matches played.

Where clubs have a lower coefficient than the overall clubs' record of their country, they will take the overall figure (thus Blackburn's coefficient in UEFA Cup terms will be the overall English coefficient not the 0.0 which is their own because they have not played in Europe in the past five years).

A further complication — not generally understood — is that the five-year coefficient runs one year in arrears, to include nations whose championships run spring to autumn rather than autumn to spring. Thus Arsenal's success in the Cup-winners Cup has *NO EFFECT* on England's coefficient for the 1994-95 season and takes effect in the *NEXT* season (1995-96) instead.



THE SQUAD

Peter SCHMEICHEL. Goalkeeper. 40 appearances. Aged 29. Cost £550,000 from Brondby, Denmark.
Gary WALSH. Goalkeeper. 2 appearances. Age 26. Home produced.

Paul PARKER. Right-back. 39 appearances. Aged 30. Cost £1.7million from QPR.
Steve BRUCE. Central defender. 41 appearances/3 goals. Aged 33. Signed for £800,000 from Norwich.
Gary PALLISTER. Central defender. 40 appearances/1 goal. Aged 28. Signed for £2.3million from Middlesbrough.
Denis IRWIN. Left-back. 41 appearances. 2 goals. Aged 28. Signed for £650,000 from Oldham.
Mike PHELAN. Utility. 1 appearance. Aged 31. Signed for £750,000 from Norwich.
Lee MARTIN. Defender. 1 appearance. Aged 26. Home produced. Sold for £500,000 to Celtic.

Paul INCE (above). Midfield. 38 appearances/8 goals. Aged 26. Signed from for £1.5 million from West Ham.
Roy KEANE. Midfield. 34 appearances/5 goals. Aged 22. Signed for £3.75 million from Nottingham Forest.
Bryan ROBSON. Midfield. 10 appearances/2 goals. Aged 37. Signed for £1.5 million from West Bromwich.
Brian McCLAIR. Midfield. 12 appearances/1 goal. Aged 30. Signed for £900,000 from Celtic.
Darren FERGUSON. Midfield. 1 appearance. Aged 22. Home produced player sold for £450,000 to Wolves.
Nicky BUTT. Midfield. 1 substitute appearance. Aged 19. Home produced.

Andrei KANCHELSKIS. Right wing. 27 appearances/5 goals. Age 25. Signed for £900,000 from Donetsk, Ukraine.
Lee SHARPE. Winger. 25 appearances/9 goals. Aged 22. Signed for £100,000 from Torquay.
Ryan GIGGS. Winger. 31 appearances/13 goals. Aged 20. Home produced.
Ben THORNLEY. Winger. 1 substitute appearance. Home produced.
Mark HUGHES. Striker. 35 appearances/11 goals. Aged 30. Signed for £1.8 million from Barcelona.
Eric CANTONA. Striker. 33 appearances/18 goals. Aged 27. Signed for £1million from Leeds.
Dion DUBLIN. Striker. 5 appearances/1 goal. Aged 25. Signed for £1 million from Cambridge.

Everton escape

But the Blades are cut adrift

ATTENTION turned to the bottom of the FA Premiership on the last day of the season because the top three places already had been decided — Manchester United retained their title, Blackburn finished as runners-up and Newcastle held off Arsenal for third and a possible place in the UEFA Cup next season.

Going into the final Saturday, six clubs were still in danger. Swindon were already down and Tottenham had saved themselves with a 2-0 win at Oldham on the Thursday.

That result left Joe Royle's Oldham with most to do, requiring a four-goal win at Norwich and other results to go in their favour. Everton, third from bottom at the start of the day, also had a difficult match, at home to in-form Wimbledon.

The other teams in danger were Ipswich, Sheffield United, Southampton and Manchester City, although the latter ensured their survival with a point at Hillsborough.

Oldham were the first to go, despite their usual heroic efforts. A 1-1 draw at Carrow Road left them with 40 points, not enough to stay up, and their agonising end-of-season fixture pile-up — four games in eight days — surely played a part in their demise. The club, fittingly, have rewarded manager Royle with a new contract despite the relegation.

Everton got off to a dreadful start against Wimbledon. Anders Limpar conceded a daft penalty — converted by Dean Holdsworth — and Gary Ablett steered in an own goal to leave Everton two down after only 20 minutes. Suddenly, 40 consecutive years of top-flight football at Goodison Park looked like ending.

But Mike Walker's side hauled themselves back into the match with a penalty from Graham Stuart, also earned by Limpar, after 24 minutes. Skipper Barry Horne fired them level after 68 minutes with a 30-yard thunderbolt to set up a tense finish.

At that stage, with Ipswich drawing 0-0 at Blackburn, Sheffield United 2-1 up at Chelsea and Southampton 3-2 up at West Ham, Everton would have gone down. And then the fun — or agony, depending on your point of view — started.

Mark Stein scored an equaliser for Chelsea after 76 minutes, the West Ham-Southampton game was held up 10 minutes from time when the crowd spilled on to the pitch, and, with nine minutes left, Stuart poked home a third for Everton to ensure their great escape and move them to safety.

At that stage, Ipswich dropped into the bottom three for the first time in the season, but they remained there for only eight and a half minutes. The goal which rescued them came not from their own making, but from Chelsea's Stein. He rifled home a Wise cross with 30 seconds left on the watch to clinch a 3-2 win for Chelsea.

That result sent Sheffield United down despite West Ham's last-minute equaliser against Southampton. For Dave Bassett's team the club's badge proved prophetic because relegation, like the sword of Damocles, has hung over Bramall Lane since August. In 20 final, crazy minutes the Blades had dropped from safety at sixth from bottom, to third from bottom and out of the Premiership.

Ipswich survived thanks to a dogged 0-0 draw at Blackburn, but will have to improve nest season if they are to stay up because four will drop next May.

Crystal Palace and Nottingham Forest come straight back up from the First Division at the first attempt, with Millwall, Leicester, Tranmere and Derby contesting the play-offs for one more place in the top flight next season. Surely this is Leicester's turn — they lost on play-off final penalties in the last two seasons.

Sadly, the last day of the Football League season — moved from Saturday to Sunday at TV's behest — was marred by violence at several grounds. Hardly a surprise given the afternoon kick-off, after pub closing time, and the inevitable tension.

Hopefully the men in charge will handle the situation differently should it arise next year.

Finally, a special mention for Plymouth, who won their last match 8-1 away to Hartlepool in the Second Division. This did not give them automatic promotion, but they have a play-off place and the honour of being the country's top scorers with 88 goals from 46 games.

JOHN KELLY

THE BOTTOM EIGHT ON FINAL MORNING

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham	41	11	12	18	53	57	45
Man City	41	9	17	15	37	48	44
Southampton	41	12	6	23	46	63	42
Sheffield Utd	41	8	18	15	40	57	42
Ipswich	41	9	15	17	35	58	42
Everton	41	11	8	22	39	61	41
Oldham	41	9	12	20	41	67	39
Swindon	41	5	15	21	47	95	30

Goodison glee . . . Everton's players and fans celebrate their winner agianst Wimbledon.

Hamilton's happy with four goals

NEW national team manager Bryan Hamilton was satisfied after his team's 4-1 home victory over Liechtenstein in the opening match of the 1996 European Championship campaign.

The supporters — there were 7,000 at Windsor Park — are now more optimistic about their team's prospects than for a long time.

Strangely, the scorers in Hamilton's previous match in charge, Phil Gray and Stephen Morrow, started the game on the bench, though Gray went on in the 77th minute.

The next stage in the preparations for the more demanding matches ahead is a three-match trip to the United States, facing Colombia, Saudi Arabia and Mexico.

Northern Ireland's last overseas tour was a visit to Australia in 1980. That was just before Billy Bingham's team had their "golden age", when they qualified for the 1982 and 1986 World Cup final tournaments.

On the domestic front both Irish Cup semi-finals were won convincingly.

Portadown never recovered from an early two-goal blast by Bangor. Dublin-based midfielder Ricky McEvoy and striker David McCallan — playing his first match for two months after a cartilage operation — were the scorers for the Seasiders, bidding to retain the trophy won for the first time last season.

Linfield hit three second-half goals in a match spoilt by a high wind to defeat a strangely listless Glenavon and qualify for the final of a competition they have not won for 12 years. Stephen Beatty, Gary Peebles and Gary Haylock were the scorers.

Linfield were fighting on three fronts. They were due to face much-improved Coleraine in the League Cup Final 11 days before the Irish Cup Final, and also were in contention for the League Championship.

ROY KITSON

Violence mars success

DUNCAN FERGUSON's long-awaited first goal for Rangers in a 4-0 League victory over Raith at Ibrox, was overshadowed by the fact that he had been involved in an incident with John McStay.

FIFA-listed referee Kenny Clark chose not to take action, providing further ammunition for those who argue that Rangers receive too much favourable treatment from Scotland's referees.

Ferguson now faces court action, the incident left an ugly blemish on the victory and manager Walter Smith must now be concerned at the number of incidents in his team's performances.

While Rangers have their own problems to deal with, they are at least winning trophies — something which cannot be said of Celtic.

The club's followers were excited at the prospect of a resurgence following the much-publicised boardroom reorganisation, in which multi-millionaire businessman Fergus McCann assumed control, but since then there has been little to justify such enthusiasm.

Results have remained indifferent and a lack of motivation among the players has been evident. Rumours abound that certain individuals on the playing staff disagree with manager Lou Macari's tactical philosphies and, as a result, are performing well within their capabilities.

Suggestions also are being made that McCann does not view Macari as a long-term prospect, a theory supported by the fact that virtually no money has been put at Macari's disposal for squad-strengthening purposes.

Celtic fans, however, have had their spirits raised slightly by the introduction of 19-year-old Simon Donnelly.

He scored a number of goals in a style which had the more optimistic among the Parkhead faithful referring to him, somewhat prematurely, as "the new Kenny Dalglish".

Such a description is misguided, but it is an understandable reaction from hard-pressed fans.

They are forced to look on in frustration at the consistent ineptitude of their own current strikers while rejects such as Gerry Creaney, Tommy Coyne and Andy Walker demonstrate their scoring abilities elsewhere.

ALAN FAIRLEY

RESULTS

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	42	27	11	4	80	38	92
Blackburn	42	25	9	8	63	36	84
Newcastle	42	23	8	11	82	41	77
Arsenal	42	18	17	7	53	28	71
Leeds	42	18	16	8	65	39	70
Wimbledon	42	18	11	13	56	53	65
Sheffield Weds	42	16	16	10	76	54	64
Liverpool	42	17	9	16	59	55	60
QPR	42	16	12	14	62	61	60
Aston Villa	42	15	12	15	46	50	57
Coventry	42	14	14	14	43	45	56
Norwich	42	12	17	13	65	61	53
West Ham	42	13	13	16	47	58	52
Chelsea	42	13	12	17	49	53	51
Tottenham	42	11	12	19	54	59	45
Manchester City	42	9	18	15	38	49	45
Everton	42	12	8	22	42	63	44
Southampton	42	12	7	23	49	66	43
Ipswich	42	9	16	17	35	58	43
Sheffield United	42	8	18	16	42	60	42
Oldham	42	9	13	20	42	68	40
Swindon	42	5	15	22	47	100	30

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	43	22	13	8	74	41	57
Aberdeen	43	17	20	6	57	35	54
Motherwell	43	20	14	9	58	42	54
Celtic	43	15	19	9	50	37	49
Hibernian	43	16	14	13	53	48	46
Dundee United	43	11	20	12	45	45	42
Hearts	43	10	20	13	36	43	40
Partick	43	12	16	15	46	56	40
Kilmarnock	43	12	15	16	36	45	39
St Johnstone	43	9	20	14	34	47	38
Raith	43	5	19	19	43	78	29
Dundee	43	8	12	23	42	57	28

Slightly better days are here again

THE controversy surrounding the national squad seems to have died down somewhat. A better performance in the 2-0 defeat by Sweden, despite a side weakened through injury and club commitments, seems to have quelled the pro-Yorath lobby.

With new manager Mike Smith returning to a more conventional system than that used by John Toshack, the players were more comfortable and under less pressure, and held the Scandinavians for most of the match.

Two more fixtures are being hastily arranged — against Luxembourg and Hungary — to give Smith more matches to settle his side before Albania's visit in September's Euro Championship tie.

In the Konica League of Wales, the struggle at the top continues with the same three in contention. Inter Cardiff lead from Ton Pentre, with Bangor City in third. A four-point spread separates them, but Bangor have two games in hand and remain favourites for the League and League Cup double.

Inconsistency continues to dog all three, and the race should stay tight to the line. Bangor's exit from the Welsh Cup, against Barry Town, will concentrate their minds on the title. A 1-0 win by Barry, 2-1 on aggregate, meant that they most probably will meet Cardiff City in the final. City won 2-1 at Swansea City in the first leg of their semi-final.

CPD Porthmadog beat Haverfordwest 9-0, with Dave Taylor grabbing two, to keep him ahead of England's Cole and Shearer in the race for the Golden Boot.

MEL AP IOR THOMAS

WEEK ENDING, SUNDAY MARCH 27

MIDWEEK

NORWICH 3 (Culverhouse,40, Sutton 50, Bowen 70)
EVERTON 0. **Att:** 16,432.

ARSENAL 2 (Merson 36, 78)
MAN UTD 2 (Sharpe 10, 53). **Att:** 36,203.

NEWCASTLE 2 (Sellars 37, Cole 73)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 32,216.

FA CUP — QUARTER-FINAL REPLAY

LUTON 3 (Oakes 35, 47, 73)
WEST HAM 2 (Allen 29, Bishop 57). **Att:** 32,216.

WEEKEND

BLACKBURN 3 (Shearer 6, 82, Sherwood 27)
SWINDON TOWN 1 (Fjortoft 4). **Att:** 20,046.

EVERTON 0
TOTTENHAM 1 (Sedgley). **Att:** 25,580.

SHEFFIELD UTD 0
SOUTHAMPTON 0. **Att:** 19,522.

CHELSEA 2 (Barnard 39, Hoddle 79)
WEST HAM 0. **Att:** 19,545.

ARSENAL 1 (Merson 47)
LIVERPOOL 0. **Att:** 35,556.

WIMBLEDON 1 (Fear 3)
LEEDS 0. **Att:** 9,035.

COVENTRY 2 (Flynn 28, M. Quinn 70)
NORWICH 1 (Eadie 46). At: 13,514.

IPSWICH 1 (Guentchev 90)
QPR 3 (Impey 64, 69, Ferdinand 71). **Att:** 15,182.

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — FINAL

ASTON VILLA 3 (Atkinson 25, Saunders 76, 90 pen)
MAN UNITED 1 (Hughes 83). **Att:** 77,231.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

MIDWEEK

SHEFFIELD UTD 3 (Whitehouse 40, Gayle 48, Rogers 73)
WEST HAM 2 (Bishop 8, Holmes 30). **Att:** 13,646.

IPSWICH 2 (D Linighan 23, Guentchev 67 pen)
MAN CITY 2 (P. Walsh 32, Rosler 62). **Att:** 13,099.

NEWCASTLE 3 (Cole 45, Lee 50, Beardsley 70)
NORWICH 0. **Att:** 32,216.

WIMBLEDON 4 (Fashanu 50, Berg 75 og, Holdsworth 79, Earle 82)
BLACKBURN 1 (Wilcox 15). **Att:** 10,537.

MANCHESTER UTD 1 (Ince 36)
LIVERPOOL 0. **Att:** 44,751.

SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Tissier 59)
OLDHAM 3 (Sharp 14, Benali 42 og, Holden 88). **Att:** 14,101.

ASTON VILLA 0
EVERTON 0. **Att:** 36,044.

SHEFFIELD WED 3 (Bart-Williams 6, C. Palmer 21, J. Sheridan 85 pen)
CHELSEA 1 (Spencer 65). **Att:** 20,433.

WEEKEND

BLACKBURN 2 (A. Shearer 46, 76)
MANCHESTER UTD 0. **Att:**20,866.

LEEDS 1 (Fairclough 89)
NEWCASTLE 1 (Cole 3). **Att:** 40,005.

ARSENAL 1 (Smith 4)
SWINDON 1 (Bodin 29 pen). **Att:** 31,364.

LIVERPOOL 1 (Rush 4)
SHEFFIELD UTD 2 (Flo 46, 72). **Att:** 36,642.

MAN CITY 3 (Beagrie 39, Walsh 45, Rosler 53)
ASTON VILLA 0. **Att:** 26,075.

SHEFFIELD WED 5 (Jones 1, Bart-Williams 43, Worthington 76, Bright 81, 87)
EVERTON 1 (Cottee 76). **Att:** 24,096.

OLDHAM 4 (Jobson 44, Beckford 46, S. McCarthy 53, A. McCarthy 89 og)
QPR 1 (Ferdinand 35). **Att:** 10,440.

CHELSEA 2 (Spencer 44, Johnsen 80)
SOUTHAMPTON 0. **Att:** 19,801.

TOTTENHAM 2 (Sheringham 56, Woodthorpe 76 og)
NORWICH 1 (Sutton 71). **Att:** 21,181.

WEST HAM 2 (Rush 17, Morley 75)
IPSWICH 1 (Mason 88). **Att:**18,307.

COVENTRY 1 (Ndlovu 64)
WIMBLEDON 2 (Castledeine 32, Holdsworth 40). **Att:** 11,290.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MIDWEEK

MAN UNITED 3 (Giggs 11, Dublin 66, Ince 67)
OLDHAM 2 (McCarthy 49, Sharp 70). **Att:** 44,686.

EVERTON 0
BLACKBURN 3 (Newell 27, 81, Wilcox 61). **Att:** 27,427.

NEWCASTLE 0
CHELSEA 0. **Att:** 32,216.

SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Rogers 54)
ARSENAL 1 (Campbell 69). At: 20,019.

QPR 0
LEEDS 4 (Deane 9, Wallace 44, White 53, 84). **Att:** 13,365.

WIMBLDON 1 (Elkins 90)
LIVERPOOL 1 (Redknapp 65). **Att:** 13,819.

SWINDON 0
SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Watson 69). **Att:** 13,727.

ASTON VILLA 0
NORWICH 0. **Att:** 25,416.

IPSWICH 0
COVENTRY 2 (Flynn 55, P. Ndlovu 66). **Att:** 12,633.

TOTTENHAM 1 (Sheringham 66 pen)
WEST HAM 4 (Jones 38, Morley 60 pen, 73, Marsh 80). **Att:** 31,502.

SOUTHAMPTON 0
MAN CITY 1 (Karl 88). At: 16,377.

WEEKEND

MAN CITY 2 (Walsh 33, Brightwell 48)
NEWCASTLE 1 (Sellars 19). **Att:** 33,774.

SHEFFIELD WED 3 (Bright 7, 31, Sheridan 21 pen)
QPR 1 (White 90). **Att:** 22,437.

LIVERPOOL 1 (Dicks 75 pen)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 30,485.

NORWICH 4 (Robins 37, Goss 48, Sutton 55, 64)
SOUTHAMPTON 5 (Ullathorne 44 og, Le Tissier 58, 63 pen 72, Monkou 89). **Att:** 17,150.

COVENTRY 1 (Ndlovu 62 pen)
TOTTENHAM 0. **Att:** 14,491.

WEST HAM 0
EVERTON 1 (Cottee 72). **Att:** 20,243.

FA CUP — SEMI-FINALS (at Wembley)

CHELSEA 2 (Peacock 13, 47)
LUTON 0. **Att:** 59,989.

MANCHESTER UTD 1 (Hughes 119)
OLDHAM 1 (Pointon 106). Aet. **Att:** 56,399.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17

MIDWEEK

BLACKBURN 1 (Shearer 10)
ASTON VILLA 0. **Att:** 19,287.

QPR 1 (Ferndinand 66)
CHELSEA 1 (Wise 79). **Att:** 15,735.

FA CUP — SEMI-FINAL, REPLAY

MAN UTD 4 (Irwin 9, Kanchelskis 15, Robson 62, Giggs 68)
OLDHAM 1 (Pointon 39). Att 32,211.

WEEKEND

WIMBLEDON 1 (Fashanu 22)
MANCHESTER UTD 0. **Att:** 28,553.

SOUTHAMPTON 3 (Dowie 28, Allen 39, L e Tissier 69 pen)
BLACKBURN 1 (Ripley 48). **Att:** 19,105.

LIVERPOOL 0
NEWCASTLE 2 (Lee 4,Cole 56). **Att:** 44,601.

ARSENAL 1 (Wright 73)
CHELSEA 0. **Att:** 34,314.

LEEDS 2 (Wallace 60, 89)
TOTTENHAM 0. **Att:** 33,658.

COVENTRY 1 (Ndlovu 25 pen)
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 1 (Jones 50). **Att:** 13,013.

SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Littlejohn 17)
ASTON VILLA 2 (Richardson 23, Fenton 25). **Att:** 18,402.

QPR 2 (White 67, Ferdinand 87)
EVERTON 1 (Cottee 64). **Att:** 13,330.

MAN CITY 1 (Rosler 47)
NORWICH 1 (Ullathorne 15). **Att:** 28,020.

OLDHAM 1 (Holden 42)
WEST HAM 2 (Allen 2, Morley 29). **Att:** 11,669.

IPSWICH 1 (Marshall 60)
SWINDON 1 (Fjortoft 14). **Att:** 14,394.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

MIDWEEK

PARTICK THISTLE 0
ST JOHNSTONE 0. **Att:** 3,602.

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 1 (Shearer 15)
DUNDEE UTD 0. **Att:** 11,500.

PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Grant 79)
HIBERNIAN 0. At: 4,932.

DUNDEE 3 (Britton 1, Blake 11, McCann 28)
KILMARNOCK 0. **Att:** 3,485.

CELTIC 0
MOTHERWELL 1 (Arnott 9). **Att:** 36,195.

ST JOHNSTONE 2 (Dodds 16, 82 pen)
RAITH ROVERS 0. **Att:** 4,550.

HEARTS 1 (Foster 84)
RANGERS 2 (McCoist 34, Hateley 54). **Att:** 18,108.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

MIDWEEK

ABERDEEN 2 (Jess 44, Miller 54)
HIBERNIAN 3 (Wright 34, 53, Tweed 80). **Att:** 11,000.

PARTICK 1 (English 54)
RANGERS 2 (Gough 44, McCoist 88). **Att:** 12,000.

DUNDEE 1 (Duffy 42)
DUNDEE UTD 1 (Brewster 9). **Att:** 8,400.

CELTIC 2 (Donnelly 18, 60)
RAITH ROVERS 1 (Crawford 31). **Att:** 14,140.

ST JOHNSTONE 0
KILMARNOCK 1 (MacPherson 2). **Att:** 5,513.

HEARTS 0
MOTHERWELL 0. **Att:** 7,879.

WEEKEND

DUNDEE UTD 1 (Brewster 78)
CELTIC 3 (Falconer 8, Collins 45 pen, Mowbray 58). **Att:** 9,713.

HIBERNIAN 0
ST JOHNSTONE 0. **Att:** 6,640.

KILMARNOCK 0
HEARTS 1 (Millar 23). **Att:** 8,022.

MOTHERWELL 2 (Coyne 17, Philliben 69)
PARTICK 2 (English 13, Grant 88). **Att:** 6,444.

RAITH ROVERS 1 (Crawford 51)
DUNDEE 1 (Shaw 13). **Att:** 3,245.

RANGERS 1 (McCall 13)
ABERDEEN 1 (Kane 77). **Att:** 45,888.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MIDWEEK

DUNDEE UTD 0
RANGERS 0. **Att:** 11,048.

PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Grant 18)
ABERDEEN 1 (Tierney 8 og). **Att:** 4,552.

CELTIC 1 (Donnelly 18)
DUNDEE 1 (Martin 28). **Att:** 16,552.

HEARTS 2 (McGowne 7 og, Robertson 15)
ST JOHNSTONE 2 (Ferguson 12, Scott 14). **Att:** 8,938.

WEEKEND

HIBERNIAN v RANGERS — *postponed.*

PARTICK v KILMARNOCK — *postponed.*

DUNDEE 0
ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Torfason 42). **Att:** 3,586.

MOTHERWELL v DUNDEE UTD — *postponed.*

CELTIC 2 (Collins 24, Vata 44)
HEARTS 2 (Colquhoun 51, Frail 88). **Att:** 18,761.

RAITH v ABERDEEN — *postponed.*

SCOTTISH CUP — SEMI-FINALS

DUNDEE UTD 1 (Welsh 88)
ABERDEEN 1 (Shearer 7). Att: 21,397.

KILMARNOCK 0
RANGERS 0. Att: 35,134.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17

MIDWEEK

SCOTTISH CUP — SEMI-FINAL REPLAYS

DUNDEE UTD 1 (McInally 70)
ABERDEEN 0. Att: 13,936.

KILMARNOCK 1 (Black 17)
RANGERS 2 (Hateley 46, 52). Att: 29,860.

WEEKEND

DUNDEE UTD 3 (Petric 21, Brewster 26, McKinlay 34)
HIBERNIAN 0. **Att:** 6,603.

ABERDEEN 0
MOTHERWELL 0. **Att:**

KILMARNOCK 2 (Black 65 pen, Brown 90)
CELTIC 0. **Att:** 11,576.

ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Scott 80)
PARTICK THISTLE 0. **Att:** 4,933.

RANGERS 4 (Robertson 17, McCoist 42, Ferguson 46, Mikhailichenko 51)
RAITH 0. **Att:** 41,515.

HEARTS 0
DUNDEE 2 (Shaw 52, 69). **Att:** 6,000.

RESULTS

Feyenoord beat Ajax in Dutch "classic" . . . Sporting and Porto reach Portuguese Cup Final . . . Nigeria win African Nations Cup . . . Italy win Euro U-21 title . . .

EUROPE

AUSTRIA

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

WEEKEND

SPORTCLUB 1
INNSBRUCK 2

SALZBURG v VORWARTS — *postponed*

ADMIRA WACKER 0
MODLING 1

STURM GRAZ 0
AUSTRIA WIEN 0

RAPID WIEN 5
ST POLTEN 3

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

WEEKEND

AUSTRIA WIEN 1
SPORTCLUB 1

MODLING 2
STURM GRAZ 0

SALZBURG 2
RAPID WIEN 1

VORWARTS 2
INNSBRUCK 0

ST POLTEN 1
ADMIRA WACKER 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

WEEKEND

SPORTCLUB 0
MODLING 2

ADMIRA WACKER 0
SALZBURG 3

STURM GRAZ 2
ST POLTEN 0

RAPID WIEN 3
VORWARTS STEYR 0

INNSBRUCK 0
AUSTRIA WIEN 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17

WEEKEND

AUSTRIA WIEN 1
VORWARTS STEYR 0

MODLING 0
INNSBRUCK 0

SALZBURG 0
STURM GRAZ 0

ST POLTEN 0
SPORTCLUB 0

BELGIUM

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

WEEKEND

CHARLEROI 1 (Malbasa 40)
ANDERLECHT 5 (Nilis 19, 26, 69, 76, Degryse 44). **Att:** 17,000.

GENK 0
SERAING 0. **Att:** 2,000.

STANDARD 7 (Wilmots 23, 32, 75, 80, Visconti 45, Goossens 62, Schepens 69)
LOMMEL 0. **Att:** 15,000.

LIERSE 0
OOSTENDE 1 (Renty 79). **Att:** 2,500.

CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Staelens 22, Eykelkamp 62)
CERCLE BRUGES 0. **Att:** 17,000.

MECHELEN 1 (Vidmar 34)
WAREGEM 1 (Vangompel 50). **Att:** 5,000.

EKEREN 2 (Talbut 50, Dheedene 66)
GENT 0. **Att:** 1,500.

RWDM 2 (Ossomio 13, Canu 51)
LIEGE 2 (Godefroid 3, Arnold 83). **Att:** 2,000.

BEVEREN 0
ANTWERP 0. **Att:** 2,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

WEEKEND

BELGIAN CUP — SEMI-FINALS, 1ST LEG

CLUB BRUGGE 4 (Verheyen 5, 46, Staelens 20, Van der Heyden 64)
EKEREN 0.

ANDERLECHT 0
RWDM 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

WEEKEND

GENT 0
CHARLEROI 0. **Att:** 6,000.

CERCLE BRUGES 1 (Weber 90)
EKEREN 1 (Tahamata 24). **Att:** 1,500.

SERAING 0
RWDM 0. **Att:** 8,000.

LIEGE 3 (Quain 9, Habets 12, 88)
MECHELEN 2 (Vagomben 62, Leen 70). **Att:** 6,000.

LOMMEL 0
LIERSE 0. **Att:** 5,000.

WAREGEM 0
BEVEREN 2 (Udovic 24, Boonen 25). **Att:** 3,000.

ANDERLECHT 0
STANDARD 0. **Att:** 23,000.

ANTWERP 0
CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Verheyen 48). **Att:** 14,000.

OOSTENDE 4 (Janik 15, Bonomi 35, 58) Delcampe 75 og)
GENK 0. **Att:** 7,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17

WEEKEND

CHARLEROI 5 (Malbasa 22, 75, Remy 69, Balog 84, Carto 86)
CERCLE BRUGES 3 (De Buyser 8, 85, Munteanu 35). **Att:** 9,000.

STANDARD 2 (Leonard 32, Kruz 71)
GENT 0. **Att:** 14,400.

LIERSE 1 (Jakobsen 24)
ANDERLECHT 4 (Degryse 25, Boffin 38, Nilis 57, Bosman 65). **Att:** 10,000.

LOMMEL 1 (Van Vel dhoven 59)
OOSTENDE 2 (Renty 50, 89). **Att:** 6,000.

CLUB BRUGGE 3 (Plovie 42, Staelens 78, 83)
WAREGEM 1 (Van Delannoitte 27). **Att:** 9,000.

MECHELEN 2 (Vreven 70, Van Gompel 88)
SERAING 1 (Lukaku 60). **Att:** 7,200.

EKEREN 1 (Hofmans 12)
ANTWERP 3 (Severeyns 14, 58, Aloisi 76). **Att:** 4,700.

RWDM 1 (Jacob 75)
GENK 1 (Goots 78). **Att:** 3,000.

BEVEREN 3 (Van Britsom 18, Udovic 78, Oulare 82)
LIEGE 0. **Att:** 2,500.

HOLLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

WEEKEND

NAC BREDA 1 (Van Burik 45)
WILLEM II 1 (Hofstede 22). **Att:** 11,500.

RODA JC 4 (Troost 25, Babangida 62, Huiberts 78, 89)
PSV EINDHOVEN 0. **Att:** 10,000.

RKC 3 (Schonens 64, Weroekker 75, Branos 81 pen)
UTRECHT 0. **Att:** 1,700.

GRONINGEN 2 (Wijnhard 4, Reiziger 46)
GA EAGLES 1 (Bosveld 56). **Att:** 9,000.

VOLENDAM 3 (Jongsma 5, Stefanovic 50, 68)
HEERENVEEN 0. **Att:** 5,500.

FEYENOORD 2 (De Wolf 58, Heus 61 pen)
AJAX 1 (Kanu 32). **Att:** 40,000.

CAMBUUR 1 (Haatrecht 46)
VITESSE 3 (Simons 60, Straal 66, Gillhaus 72). **Att:** 8,000.

TWENTE 4 (Gasbeek 4, Mols 6, Bruggink 84, 90)
MVV 2 (Viser 2, Joordens 46). **Att:** 9,845.

VVV 1 (Graef 57)
SPARTA 4 (Van der Laan 11, Bogarde 18, Jalink 44, De Nooijes 88). **Att:** 4,783.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

WEEKEND

WILLEM II v VOLENDAM — *postponed*

MVV 1 (Van As 70)
FEYENOORD 1 (Scholten 45). **Att:** 8,600.

HEERENEEN v GRONINGEN — *postponed*

SPARTA v TWENTE — *postponed*

GA EAGLES 2 (Bosvelt 36, 77)
RKC 0. **Att:** 5,000.

VITESSE v VVV — *postponed*

AJAX v NAC BREDA — *postponed*

PSV EINDHOVEN 2 (Ellerman 19, Hoekstra 23)
CAMBUUR 0. **Att:** 26,050.

UTRECHT v RODA JC — *postponed*

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MIDWEEK

WILLEM II 0
VOLENDAM 2 (Stefanovic 67, De Freitas 90). **Att:** 6,500.

HEERENVEEN 2 (Helling 10, Tammer 51)
GRONINGEN 0. **Att:** 13,500.

SPARTA 2 (De Nooyer 29, 33 pen)
TWENTE 5 (Paalplatz 4, 6, Mols 65, Vurens 75, Boerebach 88). **Att:** 4,250.

VITESSE 4 (Coen 44, Korsten 65, Latuheru 74, Gillhaus 77 pen)
VVV 0. **Att:** 5,577.

AJAX 5 (Rijkaard 14, Petterson 26 pen, 55, Overmars 38, Kanu 43)
NAC BREDA 0.

UTRECHT 1 (Plugboer 32)
RODA JC 1 (Huiberts 62). **Att:** 5,500.

WEEKEND

GA EAGLES 2 (Heering 34, Huysen 71)
HEERENVEEN 3 (De Visser 31, Tammer 54, Restop 79). **Att:** 6,200.

NAC BREDA 1 (Van Hoojdonk 39)
MVV 4 (Lanckohr 49, Roelofsen 46, 50, 87 pen). **Att:** 9,616.

RKC 1 (Boogers 15)
RODA JC 1 (Huiberts 44). **Att:** 6,540.

GRONINGEN 4 (Huizingh 17, 66, Toravest 31, Reiziger 89)
WILLEM II 1 (Abdellagi 9). **Att:** 10,218.

VOLENDAM v AJAX — *postponed.*

FEYENOORD 5 (Blinker 10, 61, Gorre 35, 85, Witschge 78)
SPARTA 1 (De Nooyer 60). **Att:** 25,755.

CAMBUUR 2 (Meijer 7, 51)
UTRECHT 1 (Van Der Ark 53). **Att:** 6,800.

TWENTE 0
VITESSE 1 (Gillhaus 14). **Att:** 8,400.

VVV 0
PSV EINDHOVEN 3 (Playfair 56, Hoekstra 57, Numan 82). **Att:** 7,300.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17

MIDWEEK

VOLENDAM 1 (Opdam 37)
AJAX 0. **Att:** 22,000.

WEEKEND

AJAX 6 (Pettersson 8, George 10, R. de Boer 29, Overmars 31, 76, Litmanen 58)
TWENTE 0. **Att:** 18,724.

WILLEM II 0
GA EAGLES 0. **Att:** 5,500.

MVV v VOLENDAM — *postponed*

HEERENVEEN 0
RKC 3 (Decheiver 6, Van Bronkhorst 13, Schoonens 72). **Att:** 13,500.

SPARTA 0
NAC BREDA 0. **Att:** 4,100.

VITESSE 1 (Korsten 19)
FEYENOORD 2 (Witschge 33, Larsson 62). **Att:** 10,861.

RODA JC 1 (Degier 63)
CAMBUUR 1 (Huiberts 81). **Att:** 3,000.

AJAX v GRONINGEN — *postponed.*

PSV EINDHOVEN 3 (Hoekstra 7, 44, Popescu 51)
TWENTE 2 (Boerebach 53, Molo 80). **Att:** 25,500.

UTRECHT 2 (Roest 43, Net 90)
VVV 3 (Graef 4, 45, 49). **Att:** 4,000.

PORTUGAL

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

WEEKEND

ESTORIL 0
SETUBAL 2 (Chiquinho Carlos 27, Chiquinho Conde 46). **Att:** 12,000.

BEIRA-MAR 2 (Dino 40, 83)
SALGUEIROS 1 (Tulipa 53). **Att:** 8,000.

FC PORTO 1 (Drulovic 44 pen)
BELENENSES 0. **Att:** 25,000.

BENFICA 2 (Joao Pinto 19, Isaias 39)
PACOS FERREIRA 1 (Helcinho 28). **Att:** 30,000.

BOAVISTA 1 (Sanchez 89)
AMADORA 1 (Jose Albano 76). **Att:** 15,000.

MARITIMO 4 (Jorge Andrade 3, 29, 85, Edmilson 8)
BRAGA 0. **Att:** 13,450.

GUIMARAES 1 (Dimas 48)
SPORTING 4 (Paulo Torres 24, Valckx 30, Balakov 61, 78). **Att:** 15,000.

GIL VICENTE 0
UNIAO MADEIRA 0. **Att:** 5,000.

FARENSE 5 (Djukic 2, Pitico 20, Hajry 76, 89, Stevanovic 87)
FAMALICAO 0. **Att:** 10,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

WEEKEND

PORTUGUESE CUP — SEMI-FINALS

SPORTING LISBON 6 (Balakov 33, 37, 66, 74 pen, 79 pen, Jukowiak 85)
LUSITANIA LOUROSA 0. **Att:** 35,000.

AMADORA 1 (Fernando 90 pen)
FC PORTO 2 (Timofte 25, Drulovic 53 pen). **Att:** 15,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

WEEKEND

GIL VICENTE 0
FARENSE 0. **Att:** 7,250.

BRAGA 2 (Barroso 48 pen, Fernando Pires 64)
FAMALICAO 0. **Att:** 10,300.

UNIAO MADEIRA 2 (Jokanovic 70 pen, Milton Mendes 89)
GUIMARES 0. **Att:** 10,000.

PACOS FERREIRA 2 (Jose Maria 70, 83)
MARITIMO 2 (Bozinoski 62 og, Heitor 77). **Att:** 8,500.

SPORTING LISBON 3 (Figo 20, Juskoviak 22, Balakov 43)
BOAVISTA 1 (Nogueira 88). **Att:** 70,000.

SALGUEIROS 1 (Sa Pinto 85)
BENFICA 0. **Att:** 6,000.

AMADORA 0
FC PORTO 0. **Att:** 4,000.

SETUBAL 2 (Chiquinho Conde 21, Chiquinho Carlos 86)
BEIRA-MAR 0. **Att:** 12,000.

BELENENSES 1 (Victor Manuel 21)
ESTORIL 0. **Att:** 7,600.

SWITZERLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 27

WEEKEND

LUGANO 4 (Subiat 22 pen, Fernandez 52, Andrioli 66, 90)
LUCERNE 1 (Minelli 28). **Att:** 2,000.

LAUSANNE 1 (Alex Comisetti 69)
SION 1 (Rey 32). **Att:** 3,897.

GRASSHOPPER 4 (Elber 4, 19, 32, 90)
SERVETTE 2 (Grassi 24, 49 pen). **Att:** 5,900.

AARAU 2 (Romano 39, Hartmann 56)
YOUNG BOYS 2 (Moser 24, Kucharski 14 pen). **Att:** 6,400.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 3

WEEKEND

SERVETTE 3 (Grassi 23 pen, 45, Neuville 66)
LUCERNE 0. **Att:** 5,000.

SION 1 (Luis Carlos 72)
YOUNG BOYS 0. **Att:** 7,500.

AARAU 0
LAUSANNE 1 (Sogbie 59). **Att:** 3,600.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MIDWEEK

SWISS CUP — QUARTER-FINALS

CHIASSO 0
ZURICH 1

SCHAFFHOUSEN 3
OLD BOYS 1

BALE 1
YVERDON 0

BADEN 1
GRASSHOPPER 5

WEEKEND

YOUNG BOYS 1 (Kunz 44)
SION 3 (Rey 17, 71, Orlando 90).

LUCERNE 2 (Tuce 28 pen, Wolf 83)
SERVETTE 4 (Renato 21, Grassi 52, Barberis 68, Neuville 85).

LAUSANNE 1 (Sogbie 54).
AARAU 0

GRASSHOPPER 3 (Nakhid 24, Willems 36, Elber 40)
LUGANO 3 (Pelosi 26, Subiat 35, 57).

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17

WEEKEND

LUCERNE 1 (Tuce 61 pen)
LUGANO 3 (Mauro Galvao 4, Pelosi 41, 70).

SERVETTE 1 (Neuville 17)
GRASSHOPPER 1 (Gren 3)

SION 5 (Luis Carlos 21, Rey 53, Assis 60, 76 pen, 89)
LAUSANNE 0.

YOUNG BOYS 1 (Bregy 8)
AARAU 2 (Kucharski 20, Romano 80).

INTERNATIONAL

Note: African Nations Cup Finals group details were featured in May edition

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Mar 23 = Skopje — friendly
MACEDONIA 2 (Micevski 2, Boskovski 20)
SLOVENIA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Ormandiev (Bul)
Macedonia: Tracjev — Jovanovski (Grozdanov; Stankovski), Stojkosvki, Kanatlarovski, Djurovski — MArkovski, Cerafimovski (Tomovski), Georgijevski, Boskovski — Nemed, Micevski.
Slovenia: Simunovic (Zupan) — Milanic, Polsjak, Tifer, Bonkovski (Kosic) — Jermanis, Novak, Zidan, Oblak (Pavlin) — Udovic, Siljak (Skaper).

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

Mar 26 = Dallas — friendly
UNITED STATES 2 (Perez 31pen, 48)
BOLIVIA 2 (Balivieso 12, Pinedo 76)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 26,835. **Ref:** Dallas (Sco)
US: Meola — Balboa, Lalas, Armstrong, Agoos (Caligiuri 46), Burns, Dooley, Henderson, Jones, Perez (Michallik 81), Vermes (Reyna 46).
Bolivia: Trucco — Sandy, Rimba, Soruco, Cristaldo, Soria, Ramiro Castillo (Pinedo 72), Baldivieso, Chavez, Moreno (Cueto 76), Ramallo (Alvaro Pena 64).

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

Mar 27 = Riyadh — friendly
SAUDI ARABIA 0
CHILE 2 (Lucas 17pen, Marcilio 84)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 12,000.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

Mar 30 = Riyadh — friendly
SAUDI ARABIA 2 (Sami Al-Jaber 65, Fahd Al-Ghachiyane 87)
CHILE 2 (Leppe 26pen, Al-Oorni og 48)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000.

Mar 30 = Valetta — friendly
MALTA 1 (Laferla 44)
SLOVAKIA 2 (Timko 13, Hyravy 69)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 4,000. **Ref:** Stafoggia (Ita)
Malta: Cluett — S Vella, Buttigieg (Cauchi 87), Galea, Brincat — Buhagiar, Gregory, Camilleri, Scerri (Agius 79) — Suda (Zarb 54), LAferla.
Slovakia: L Molnar — Stupala, Glonek, Tittel, Kinder — Weiss (Danko 58), Tomaschek, Hyravy, Moravcik — Timko, Dubovsky.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

Apr 2 = Tunis — African Chp qtr-final
NIGERIA 2 (Yekini 50, 71pen)
ZAIRE 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 2,000.
Nigeria: Rufai — Eguavon, Iroha, Okafor, Okechukwu, Idiaba, George, Oliseh (Ugbade 79), Ekoku (Adepoju 61), Amokachi, Yekini.
Zaire: Tambwe — Ngombo, Nzau, Danda, Lokose, Lukima, Kabwe Kasango, Ndinga, Basaula, Nsimba (Nsumbu 46), Lukaku (Mpia Kasango 71).

Apr 2 = Tunis — African Chp qtr-final
EGYPT 0
MALI 1 (Soumaila Traore 64)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 3,000.
Egypt: Shoubier — Kassem, Fawzi Gamal, Islam Fathi, Hamza El Gamal, Talaat Mansour, Ahmed Abdou El Kass, Yasser Rayan, Fekri Al Saghir, Bashir Abdel Samad (Mohamed Ramadhan 62), Ayman Mansour.
Mali: Farota — Moussa Keita, Guindo, Sangare, Sidibe, Abdoulaye Traore, Toure (Brehima Traore 80), Soumano, Diallo, Soumaila Traore (Sangare 88), Coulibaly.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

April 3 = Tunis — African Chp qtr-final
ZAMBIA 1 (Evans Sakala 38)
SENEGAL 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Jamal Al Sharif (Syr)
Senegal: Seck — Aly Male, A Mendy, Camara, Diagne, Gassama (Tambedou 53), Faye, Cisse, Tendeng (Diallo 46), Amara Traore, Sane.
Zambia: Phiri — Chongo, Litana, M Malitoli, Chiyangi, Sichokolo (Mordon Malitoli 65), Sakala, Jonson Bwalya (Chilumba 83), Kalusha Bwalya, Saileti, Kenneth Malitoli.

April 3 = Tunis — African Chp qtr-final
IVORY COAST 2 (Joel Tiehi 30, Abdoulaye Traore 81)
GHANA 1 (Charles Akunnor 77)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Ali Bujsaim (UAE)
Ghana: Ansah — Amankwah, Whyte, Frimpong-Manso (Dodoo 46), Baffoe, Duah, Acheampong, Akunnor, Abedi Pele, Prince Polley, Yeboah.
Ivory Coast: Gouamene — Aka Kouame, Fallet, Abouo, Dao, Sie, Guel, Maguy, Bassole, Abdoulaye Traore, Tiehi (Amani 63).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

Apr 6 = Tunis — African Chp semi-final
NIGERIA 2 (Ben Iroha 26, Rachidi Yekini 40)
IVORY COAST 1 (Michel Bassole 19, 31)
HT: 2-2. **Att:** 4,000.
Nigeria won 4-2 on pens
Nigeria: Peter Rufai — Isaac Semitoje (Uche Okafor 74), Ben Iroha, Stephen Keshi (Nduka Ugbade 102), Uche Okechukwu, Sunday Oliseh, Finidi George, Austin Okocha, Sqmson Siasia, Daniel Amokachi, Rachidi Yekini.
Ivory Coast: Alain Gouamene — Basile Aka Kouame, Vilasco Fallet, Sam Dominique Abouo, Lassina Dao, Donald-Olivier Sie, Tchiressoua Guel, Serge-Alain Maguy, Michel Bassole, Abdoulaye Traore (Ahmed Ouattara 44), Joel Tiehi (Lambert Yao Amani 57).

April 6 = Tunis — African Chp semi-final
ZAMBIA 4 (Litana 6, Saileti 31, Kalusha 46, Malitoli 74)
MALI 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 4,000.
Zambia: Martin Mwamba — Harrison Chongo, Elijah Litana, Mordon Malitoli, Aggrqey Chiyangi, John Lungu (Tenant Chilumba 77), Joel Bwalya, Evans Sakala, Kalusha Bwalya, Zeddy Saileti (Linos Makwaza 67), Kenneth Malitoli.
Mali: Ousmane Farota — Moussa Keita, Souleymane Sangare, Abdoulaye Traore, Sory Ibrahim Toure (Bassala Toure 49), Bassala Toure, Abdoul Karim Sidibe (Sekou Sangare 46), Amadou Pathe Diallo, Ousmane Soumano, Soumaila Traore, Fernand Coulibaly.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Apr 7 = Villavicencia — friendly
COLOMBIA 0
BOLIVIA 1 (Pinedo)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,500. **Ref:** Russi (Col)
Colombia: Cordoba — Herrera, Andres Escobar, Ortiz, Perez, Gomez, Alvarez, Alex Escobar, Serna, Trellez (Zambrano 46), De Avila.
Bolivia: Trucco — Chavez, Rimba, Soruco (Castillo 87), Sandy, Cristaldo, Soria, Baldivieso, Pinedo (Borja 65), Ramallo (A Pena 80), Moreno (Arias 89).

Apr 7 = Szombathely — friendly
HUNGARY 0
SLOVENIA 1 (Katanec 27)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 4,000. **Ref:** Sadlacek (Aus)
Hungary: Vegh (Koszta 46) — Lipcsei, Marton, Szekeres — Mracsko, Halmai, G Bognar (F Albert 46), Illes (Hajszan 46), Kereszturi (Jagodics 75), Csertoi (Vincze 46), Klaus.
Slovenia: Zupan — Galic, Milanic, Englaro (Krizan 85), Germanis — Pate (Oblak 79), Katanec, Zidan, Novak — Udovic, Gliha (Rutonja 81).

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

April 10 = Tunis — Af Chp 3rd place play-off
IVORY COAST 3 (Kone 2, Ouattara 67, Sie 70)
MALI 1 (Diallo 46)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Mathabela (SA)
Ivory Coast: Gouamene — Aka Kouame, Hobon, Abouo, C Amani, Sie, Guel, Y Amani, Kone (Camara 87), Yago (Bassole 64), Ouattara.
Mali: Farota — Moussa, Keita (B Toure 78), Sekou Sangare, M Sidibe, Guindo (H Sangare 15), Souleymane Sangare, Mdiaye, Diallo, Diop, B Traore, Soumano.

April 10 = Tunis — Af Chp Final
NIGERIA 2 (Amunike 5, 47)
ZAMBIA 1 (Litana 3)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** L K Chong (Mau)
Nigeria: Rufai — Eguavon, Iroha, Okechukwu, Okafor, Olisen, George (Siasia 41), Okocha (Ugbade 73), Amokachi, Amunike, Yekini.
Zambia: Phiri — Chongo, Litana, M Malitoli, Chiyangi, Mulenga (Makwaza 60), Sakala, Joel Bwalya (Johnson Bwalya 70), Kalusha Bwalya, K Malitoli, Saileti.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

Apr 13 = Cannes — intl friendly
POLAND 1 (Wieszczycki 74)

SAUDI ARABIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 200. **Ref:** Veisseire (Fra)
Poland: Wozniak — Jegor, Lapinski, Szewczyk, Jalocha — Wieszczycki, Rudy, Kosecki, Lesniak, Fedoruk — Ponan.
Saudi Arabia: Muhyammad Al Daeaya — Ahmad Jameel, Muhammad Al Khilawe, Muhammad Al Qarni, Sulaiman Rashoodhi, Fouad Auwar, Khalid Al Musaed, Luai Subaei, Saced Al Owairan, Fahd Al Gheyshyan, Fahd Al Hamdan.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

April 15 = Muscat — friendly
OMAN 1 (Nabil Mubarak 69)
BULGARIA 1 (Yankov 83)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 2,000.
Bulgaria: Mikhailov (Popov 46) — Kremenliev (Anghelov 70), Ivanov, Tsvetanov (Urukov 70), G Georgiev (Rakov 70) — Yankov, Guentchev, Sirakov — Vidolov (Andonov 70), Kostadinov, Mikhtarski (Borimirov 46).

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

April 16 = Jacksonville, Fla — friendly
UNITED STATES 1 (Sorber 47)
MOLDOVA 1 (Kosse 85 pen)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 6,103. **Ref:** Boulos (US)
US: Friedel — Balboa, Lalas, Caligiuri, Clavijo, Dooley (Burns 76), Sorber, Henderson (Michallik 46), Jones, Perez, Kinnear (Reyna 46).
Moldova: Koshelev — Pogorelov, Karas (Chebotar 73), Guzun (Secu 89), Gaidamaschuk, Stoenco, Oprea (Belous 73), Kurtean, Kosse, Spiridon, Kleschenko (Nemechkalo 76).

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Apr 17 = Port of Spain, Trinidad — Shell Caribbean Cup
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO 7
MARTINIQUE 2
Att: 20,000.

Apr 17 = Armenia — friendly
COLOMBIA 1 (De Avila 3)
NIGERIA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

Apr 20 = Belfast — European Chp Group 6
N IRELAND 4 (J Quinn 5, 33, Lomas 23, Dowie 48)
LIECHTENSTEIN 1 (Hasler 84)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 4,500. **Ref:** Lingue (Hol)
N Ireland: Wright — Flemming, Taggart, Donaghy, Worthington — K Wilson, Magilton, Lomas (M O'Neill 81), M Hughes — J Quinn, Dowie (P Gray 78).
Liechtenstein: Ohry — Stocker (Hasler 68), C Frick, Ospelt, Moser — Rittner, Quaderer, Zech, M Frick, Telser — C Matt (Hanselmann 64).

Apr 20 = Oslo — friendly
NORWAY 0
PORTUGAL 0
Att: 17,509. **Ref:** Waddell (Sco)
Norway: Grodas — Loken, Berg, Bratseth, Bjornebye (Nilsen 68), Strandli, Mykland, Bohinen (Leonhardsen 46), Mjelde (Flo 83), Rekdal, J I Jakobsen (Fjortoft 72).
Portugal: Adelino Neno (Alfredo 46) — Paulo Madeira, Helder, Oceano, Rui Jorge, Paulo Bento (Helio 87), Vitor Paneira (Jorge Couto 64), Rui Barros (Folha 15), Nogueira, Tavares, Cadete (Pedro 80).

Apr 20 = Vilnius — friendly
LITHUANIA 1 (Baltsunikas 40)
ISRAEL 1 (R Harazi 7)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 4,200. **Ref:** Zhuk (Bye)
Lithuania: Stauce — Zuikas, Mazeikis, Baltusnikas, Sukristovas, Tereskinas — Skarbalius, Olsanskis, Stumbrys (Aparavicius 60) — Vaneikis, Stekys (Tarincevas 75).
Israel: Ginzburg (R Cohen 46) — A Harazi, Shelach, Klinger, Glam — A Hazan, R Levi, Nimny, Attar (Turdjman 77), J Schwartz (Bitom 46) — R Harazi.

Apr 20 = Bursa — friendly
TURKEY 0
RUSSIA 1 (Radchenko 9)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Porombolu (Rom)
Turkey: Engin — Recep, B Bulent (Feti 84), Gokhan, Ali — Ogun (H Ibrahim 69), Osman (Bulent 61), Ergun, Ertugrul — Abdullah (Hasan 80), Orhan.
Russia: Kharin — Galiamin, Gorlukovich, Nikiforov (Tatarchuk 81), Ternavski — D Kuznetsov, D Popov, Borodiuk (Beschastnikh 60), Tsimbalar — Yuran (Onopko 46), Radchenko (Lediakhov 85).

Apr 20 = Bucharest — friendly
ROMANIA 3 (Dumitrescu 22, 49, Niculescu 64)
BOLIVIA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 13,000. **Ref:** Craciunescu (Rom)
Romania: Stelea — D Petrescu, G Popescu, Prodan, Selimesi (Niculescu 46) — Lupescu, Munteanu (Papura 72), Chirita, Panduru — Paducioiu, Dumitrescu.
Bolivia: Trucco (Rojas 75) — Chavez, O Sanchez, Rimba, Sandy — Cristaldo, E Sanchez, Soria (Pioneda 78), Baldivieso (Pena 73) — Moreno (Melgar 61), Ramallo (Soruco 46).

Apr 20 = Bratislava — friendly
SLOVAKIA 4 (Dubovsky 24pen, 61, Kinder 68, Moravcik 83)
CROATIA 1 (Popovic 67)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 6,511. **Ref:** Puhl (Hun)
Slovakia: Vencel — Stupala, Moravec, Hipp, Kinder — Weiss (Obaitnik 78), Tomaschek, Dubovsky (Zvara 78), Moravcik — S Rusnak, Gostic
Croatia: Ladic — Toplak, Istvanic, Brajkovic, Pavlicevic — Mose, Kosniku (Mumlek 46), Racunica (Popovic 46), Vukic (Rapajic 46) — Mladenovic, Cvitanovic.

Apr 20 = Zurich — friendly
SWITZERLAND 3 (Chapuisat 12, 37, Bregy 28pen)
CZECH REP 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 16,200. **Ref:** Sandra (Bel)
Switzerland: Pascolo — Hottiger, Geiger (Rueda 80), Herr (Egli 80), Quentin — Ohrel (Studer 77), Sforza (Bickel 46), Bregy (Wyss 70), A Sutter — Knup (S Fournier 70), Chapuisat (Subiat 59).
Czech Rep: Kouba — Kadlec (Kubik 46), J Novotny, Suchoparek — Latal, Pborsky, Nemecek, Frydek (Smejkal 66), Nemec — Kuka (Samec 46), Siegl.

Apr 20 = Vienna — friendly
AUSTRIA 1 (Hutter 13)
SCOTLAND 2 (McGinlay 35, McKinlay 60)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Albrecht (Ger)
Austria: Wohlfahrt (Konsel 46) — Schottel, W Kogler, Hochmaier, Prosenik — P Stoger (Kuhbauer 46), Baur, A Herzog, A Hutter — Cerny, Polster (Wessenberger 62).
Scotland: Leighton — McKimmie, Hendry, McLaren, Irvibe — McKinlay, McAllister, Collins (McCall 85), Boyd (Ferguson 46) — McGinlay (D Shearer 76), Jess (Nevin 84).

Apr 20 = Tilburg — friendly
HOLLAND 0
REP IRELAND 1 (Coyne 55)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 14,000. **Ref:** Strampe (Ger)
Holland: De Goey — Valckx, R Koeman (De Wolf 46), F De Boer — Rijkaard, Jonk (Winter 46), Davids — Overmars, Bergkamp (Taument 46), R De Boer.
Rep Ireland: Bonner — G Kelly, Moran, Babb, T Phelan (McLoughlin 84) — McGoldrick (McAteer 71), Sheridan, R Whelan, Townsend, Staunton — Coyne (Coyle 86).

Apr 20 = Wrexham — friendly
WALES 0
SWEDEN 2 (Larsson 83, Brolin 90)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 4,694. **Ref:** Shorte (RI)
Wales: Southall — Bowen (Blackmore 60), Neilson, Melville, Bodin — Horne, Phillips, Goss (C Hughes 81), Speed — Rush, I Roberts (Blake 81).
Sweden: Ravelli — R Nilsson (M Nilsson 72), P Andersson, Bjorklund, Ljung — Schwarz, Limpar (Blomqvist 70), Ingesson — K Andersson (Kinsvall 81), Larsson, Brolin.

Apr 20 = Copenhagen — friendly
DENMARK 3 (M Laudrup 21pen, 43, Povlsen 60)
HUNGARY 1 (Vincze 2)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 12,512. **Ref:** Oskarsson (Fin)
Denmark: Krogh — Hogh, L Olsen, Rieper — J Jensen (Helveg 15), Vilfort, N Bielsen, H Larsen (Kristensen 70) — M Laudrup, B Laudrup (Christensen 70), Pingel (Povlsen 58).
Hungary: Vegh — Lipcsei, Marton, G Meszoly — Simon (Csabi 46), Halmai (Puglits 70), Sandor (Pisont 42), Illes, Keller — Klausz (Csertoi 63), Vincze (Jagodics 89).

Apr 20 = Toulon, France — friendly
SAUDI ARABIA 2 (Owairan 16, Al-Mohalal 25)
ICELAND 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 500. **Ref:** Leduc (Fra)
S Arabia: Aldeaya — Saleh (Souleiman 76), Abdul Jawad, Alkhelwi, Jamil — Anwar, Hamzah Saleh, Aldawood, Oweiran — Al-Mohalal (Rushudi 70), Ghosheiyan (Abas 60).
Iceland: Kristiansson — Marteinsson (Gislasson 61), Jonsson, Dervic, B Gunnlaugsson (Ingolfsson 61) — Kristinsson, Thordarsson, Orlygsson, Stefansson — A Gunnlaugsson (Sogurdsson 87), Gudjohnsen.

Apr 20 = Salta — friendly
ARGENTINA 3 (Balbo 13, Maradona 55pen, Perez 81)
MOROCCO 1 (Kachloul 18)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Carlos Velazquez (Par)
Argentina: Islas — H Diaz, Vazquez (Borelli 30), Ruggeri, Chamot — Simeone, Mancuso, Cagna (Perez 46), Maradona (Ortega 79) — Balbo, Batistuta (Montserrat 85).
Morocco: Alaoui — Macer, Triki, El Hadrioui, Lagraoui (Negrous 73) — Hadji, Hababi, Azzouzi (El Khalej 68), Kachloul — Chaouch, Daoudi (Ben Mouloud 84).

Apr 20 = Davidson, N Carolina — friendly
**UNITED STAT

RESULTS . . . The Strongest thrash Minerven 7-1 in the Libertadores Cup . . .

Karlsruhe: Kahn — Nowotny, Bilic, Schuster, Schutterle (Klinge 80), Reich (Krieg 46), Rolff, Schmidt, Bonan, Schmitt, Kiriakov.
Salzburg: Konrad — Lainer, Furstaller, Winklhofer, Feiersinger, Stadler (Muzek 80), Marquinho (Arnerhauser 60), Hutter, Aigner, Jurcevic, Pfeifenberger.

SOUTH AMERICA

LIBERTADORES CUP

Group 1

Mar 12 — Barranquilla (Col)
ATLETICO JUNIOR (Col) 0
OLIMPIA (Par) 0
Att: 10,000.
Junior: Pazo, Riasco, Uribe, Perea, Alexis Mendoza, Grau, Villamizar (Samaniego), Araujo (Hernandez), Pacheco, Valenciano, Guerrero.
Olimpia: Bataglia, Caceres, Ramirez, Ayala, Suarez, Franco, Jara Heyn, Sotelo (Campos), Vidal Sanabria, Cardozo (Ferreira), Del Valle.

Mar 16 — Medellin (Col)
INDEPENDIENTE MEDELLIN (Col) 3 (Gomez, Hernandez 2-1 pen)
CERRO PORTENO (Par) 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Carlos Hernandez (Peru).
Att: 30,000.
Independiente: Barbat, Pino, Estrada, Fernandez, Pimentel, Perez, Pareja, Diaz (Juarez), Gomez, Castro, Hernandez (Torres).
Cerro Porteno: Da Silva, Vargas, Gamarra, Yegros, Villamayor, Struway, Enciso, J. Ferreira (Alcaras), Espinola, (Benitez), V. Ferreira, Nunez.

Mar 18 — Barranquilla (Col)
ATLETICO JUNIOR (Col) 3 (Valenciano, Grau, Araujo)
CERRO PORTENO (Par) 2 (J. Ferreyra 2)
Att: 10,000.
Junior: Pazo, Riasco, Uribe, Perea, Mendoza, Grau, Mendez, Araujo (Nieto), Pacheco, Valenciano, Guerrero.
Cerro Porteno: Da Silva, Sanabria, Villamayor, Gamarra, Benitez, Alcaraz, Torres, Enciso, Espinola, Nunez (J. Ferreira), Yegros (V. Ferreira).

March 24 — Asuncion (Par)
CERRO PORTENO (Par) 1 (Arce pen)
OLIMPIA (Par) 3 (Del Valle, Campos, Ramirez pen)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Atilio Sanabria.
C. Porteno: Mendoza, Sanabria, Gamarra, Villamayor, Barrios, Arce, Struway, Enciso, Espinola (J. Ferreira), V. Ferreira (Yegros), Da Lima.
Olimpia: Bataglia, Caceres, Ramirez, Ayala, Suarez, Sanabria, Franco, Sotelo, Avalos (Jara Heyn), Del Valle, Campos (Caballero).

Mar 24 — Medellin (Col)
INDEPENDIENTE MEDELLIN (Col) 0
ATLETICO JUNIOR (Col) 1 (Samagiano)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Renato Marsiglia (Bra).
Att: 32,000.
Independiente: Barbat, Pino, Estrada, Fernandez, Pimentel, Perez, Pareja, Gomez, Castro, Hernandez (Juarez), Diaz (Torres).
Junior: Pazo, Briasco, Perea, Alexis Mendoza, Galeano, Mendez (Nieto), Grau, Pacheco, Araujo (Mackenzie), Valenciano, Samaniego.

Apr 5 — Asuncion (Par)
OLIMPIA (Par) 0
INDEPENDIENTE MEDELLIN (Col) 2 (Gomez, Castro)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Anibal Hay (Arg). **Att:** 15,000.
Olimpia: Bataglia, Caceres, Ramirez, Castro (F. Ferreira), Suarez, V. Sanabria, Jara Heyn, Sotelo, Avalos, Del Valle, Campos (Caballero).
Independiente: Barbat, Estrada, Fernandez, Pino, Pimentel, Pareja, Perez, Diaz, Gomez, Castro (Duran), Uribe (Garcia).

Apr 8 — Asuncion (Par)
CERRO PORTENO (Par) 0
INDEPENDIENTE MEDELLIN (Col) 0
Att: 3,000.
C. Porteno: Mendoza, Gamarra, Sanabria, Villamajor, Alcaraz, Enciso, Barrios, Struway, Espinola (Caballero), Perez (Ygros), V. Ferreira.
Independiente: Barbat, Pino, Fernandez, Estrada, Garcia, Botero, Pareja, Perez, Gomez, Uribe, Castro (Juarez).

Group 2

Mar 16 — Buenos Aires (Arg)
BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 1 (Acosta)
CRUZEIRO (Bra) 2 (Paulo Roberto, Roberto Gaucho)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Jorge Nieves (Uru). **Att:** 45,000.
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya, Sonora, Noriega, Giuntini, MacAllister, Peralta, Mancuso, Marcico, Carranza (Tapia), Martinez, Da Silva (Acosta).
Cruzeiro: Dida, Paulo Roberto, Celio Lucio, Luizinho, Nonato, Douglas, Ademir, Luiz Fernando, Macale (Cleison), Ronaldo, Roberto Gaucho.

Mar 17 — Buenos Aires (Arg)
VELEZ SARSFIELD (Arg) 1 (Asad)
PALMEIRAS (Bra) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Jose Da Rosa (Uru).
Velez Sarsfield: Chilavert, Almandoz, Trotta, Sotomayor, Cadozo, Gomez, Compagnucci, Basualdo, Bassedas, Asad (Pompei), Flores (Pellegrino).
Palmeiras: Sergio, Claudio, Anonio Carlos, Cleber, Miro, Mazinho, Cesar Sampaio, Rincon, Zinho, Evair, Edilson (Maurillo).

Mar 23 — Buenos Aires (Arg)
BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 1 (Saldana)
VELEZ SARSFIELD (Arg) 2 (Asad, Basualdo)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Javier Castrilli (Arg).
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya, Sonora, Noriega, Giuntini, MacAllister, Peralta (Saldana), Mancuso, Marcico, Da Silva (Acosta), Martinez, Carranza.
Velez Sarsfield: Chilavert, Almandoz, Trotta, Stomayor, Cardozo, Basualdo, Gomez, Compagnucci, Bassedas, Flores (Pellegrino), Asad (Galeano).

Mar 25 — Belo Horizonte (Bra)
CRUZEIRO (Bra) 2 (Nonato, Luiz Fernando)
PALMEIRAS (Bra) 1 (Rincon)
HT: 0-1.
Cruzeiro: Dida, Paulo Roberto, Celio Lucio, Luizinho, Nonato, Douglas, Ademir, Luiz Fernando, Cleisson, Ronaldo, Roberto Gaucho.
Palmeiras: Sergio, Claudio (Maurilio), Antonio Carlos, Cleber, Roberto Carlos, Cesar Sampaio, Mazinho, Rincon, Zinho, Edilson (Macula) Evair.

Mar 30 — Buenos Aires (Arg)
VELEZ SARSFIELD (Arg) 2 (Trotta pen., Asad)
CRUZEIRO (Bra) 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Dluzniewski (Uru)
Velez Sarsfield: Chilavert, Almandoz, Trotta, Sotomayor, Cardozo, Basualdo, Gomez, Bassedas, Campa, Asad (Hussain), Flores (Pornei).
Cruzeiro: Dida, Paulo Roberto, Celio Lucio, Luizinho, Nonato, Douglas, Ademir (Toninho Cerezo), Luiz Fernando, Cleisson (Cate), Ronaldo, Roberto Gaucho.

Mar 31 — Buenos Aires (Arg)
BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 2 (Acosta, Giuntini)
PALMEIRAS (Bra) 1 (Edilson)
HT: 2-1. **Ref:** J. Matto (Uru).
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya, Sonora, Noriega, Giuntini, MacAllister, Saldana, Peralta, Marcico (Farias), Carranza (Saturno), Martinez, Acosta.
Palmeiras: Sergio, Claudio (Fernandez), Antonio Carlos, Cleber, Roberto Carlos, Mazinho, Cesar Samapaio, Rincon, Zinho (Amaral), Edilson, Evair.

Apr 6 — Belo Horizonte (Bra)
CRUZEIRO (Bra) 2 (Luiz Fernando, Ronald)
BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 1 (Martinez)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Salvador Imperatore (Chi).
Att: 22,500.
Cruzeiro: Dida, Paulo Roberto, Celio Lucio, Luizinho, Nonato, Luiz Fernando (Macale), Douglas, Ademir, Toninho Cerezo, Ronaldo, Roberto Gaucho (Cleisson).
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya, Sonora, Noriega, Moya, MacAllister, Saldana, Mancuso, Marcico (Tejera), Da Silva (Carranza), Martinez, Acosta.

Apr 7 — Sao Paulo (Bra)
PALMEIRAS (Bra) 4 (Macula, Maurilio, Edilson pen, Sorato)
VELEZ SARSFIELD (Arg) 1 (Pompei)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Ivan Guerrero (Chi). **Att:** 4,775.
Palmeiras: Fernandez, Claudio, Tonhao, Ricardo, Miro, Amarall, (Alexandre Rosa), Macula, Giancarlo, Edilson, Edmundo (Maurilio), Sorato.
Velez Sarsfield: Docabo, Galeano, Avila, Pellegrino, Moriggi, (Arlentano), Hussein, Compagnucci, Camps, Pornei, Rentera, Gonzalez.

Group 3

Mar 15 — Guayaquil (Ecu)
BARCELONA (Ecu) 3 (Delgado 2, Gavica)
ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Pablo Pena (Bol). **Att:** 30,000.
Barcelona: Mendoza, Gomez, Montano, Tenorio (Martinez), Alcivar, Carabali, Carcelen (Gavica), Insua, Pizarro, Delgado, Alfaro Moreno.
Alianza: Wirth, Basombrio, Soto, Tanucci, Guido, Yayo, Valenca (Ruiz), Kopriva, Muchotrigo, Di Lucca (Saavedra), Saenza.

Mar 18 — Guayaquil (Ecu)
EMELEC (Ecu) 3 (Morales, Edu, Fernandez)
ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Armando Aliaga (Bol).
Att: 30,000.
Emelec: Espinoza, Coronel, Hurtado, Tenorio, Capurro, Fajardo Verduga), Morales, Pico, Edu, Fernandez, Oste.
Alizana: Wirth, Basombrio, Soto, Tanucci, Guido (Hinostroza), Yao, Valencai (Honman), Kopriva, Ruiz, Muchotrigo, Saenz.

Mar 23 — Lima (Peru)
ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) 1 (Kopriva)
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 2 (Flores, Nunes)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Fernando Chapell (Peru).
Alianza: Wirth, Basombrio (Hinostroza), Tanucci, Soto, Guido (Saavedra), Kopriva, Homman, Yayo, Muchotrigo, De Luca, Saenz.
Universitario: Zubzuk, Dulanto, Astegiano, Reynoso, Ubillus, Martinez, Rodriguez, Carranza, Nunes, Beltramo, (Torrealva), Flores.

Mar 23 — Guayaquil (Ecu)
BARCELONA (Ecu) 0
EMELEC (Ecu) 1 (Oste)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Carlos Pimentel (Bra).
Att: 70,000.
Barcelona: Mendoza, Gomez, Montano (Martinez), Tenorio, Alcivar, Carabali, Carcelen, Pizarro, Insua, Gavica, Alfaro Moreno (Delgado).
Emelec: Espinoza, Coronel, Hurtado, Tenorio, Capurro, Fajardo, Morales, Pico, Edu, Fernandez, Oste.

April 5 — Lima (Peru)
ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) 2 (Rodriguez, Soto)
BARCELONA (Ecu) 1 (Insua pen)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** John Toro (Col). **Att:** 8,500.
Alianza: Pizarro, Basombrio, Soto, Ruiz, Guido, Rodriguez, Kopriva, Valencia, Hinostroza, Saenz, Muchotrigo.
Barcelona: Mendoza, Gomez, B. Tenorio, Montanero, Alcivar, Carcelen, Caravali, Insua, Pizarro, Gavica, Delgado.

April 8 — Lima (Peru)
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 0
BARCELONA (Ecu) 0
Att: 18,000. **Ref:** Jorge Zyloaga (Col)
Universitario: Zubzuck, Dulanto, Reynoso, Asteggiano, Ubillus, Martinez, Rodriguez, Carranza, Nunes, Beltramo, Flores.
Barcelona: Mendoza, Alcibae, Tenorio, Montanero, Gomez, Pizarro, Caravali, Aviles, Insua, Macias, Gavica.

Group 3

Mar 13 — Santiago (Chi)
COLO COLO (Chi) 2 (Teodoro Dos Santos, Mendoza)
DEFENSOR (Uru) 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000.

Mar 15 — Santiago (Chi)
UNION ESPANOLA (Chi) 1 (Carreno pen)
NACIONAL (Uru) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Luis Oliveto.
Union Espanola: Rabajda, Galdamez (Bustos), Lucca, Gonzales (Rojas), Figueroa, Salas, Perdomo, Carreno, Sierra, Ruiz, Morales.
Nacional: Sere, Dominquez, Revelez, Badell, Gastan, Pereira, Parodi (Gonzalez), Gutierraz, Lemos, Vidal Gonzalez, Canobbio.

Mar 18 — Santiago (Chi)
COLO COLO (Chi) 4 (Reyes, Yanez 2, Dos Santos)
NACIONAL (Uru) 2 (O'Neill 2)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Horacio Elizondo (Arg)
Colo Colo: Moron, Mendoza (Gonzalez), Baena Reyes, Margas, Vilches, Ramirez, Contreras (Rubio), Fracchia, Toninho Dos Santos, Yanez.
Nacional: Sere, Dominquez (Rodriguez), Badell, Revelez, Gastan, Pereira, Gutierrez, Lemos, Parodi, Vidal Gonzalez, Canobbio (O'Neill).

Mar 23 — Montevideo (Uru)
NACIONAL (Uru) 1 (Canobbio)
DEFENSOR (Uru) 1 (Alvez)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Daniel Bello. **Att:** 9,000.
Nacional: Sere, Rodriguez, Canals, Revelez, Severo (Souza), Larre, Gutierrez, Pereira, Lemos, Canobbio, Vidal Gonzalez.
Defensor: Arbiza, Gonzalez, Silva, Saravia, Dos Santos, Ferreri, Cantera, Marrero, Alvez, De Lima, Correa.

Mar 23 — Santiago (Chi)
COLO COLO (Chi) 3 (Fracchia, Yanez, Vilches)
UNION ESPANOLA (Chi) 1 (Ruiz)
HT:1-1. **Ref:** Carlos Robles (Chi). **Att:** 19,800.
Colo Colo: Moron, Mendoza (R. Gonzalez), Reyes, Baena, Margas, Ramirez, Vilches, Contreras (Vega), Fracchia, Toninho, Yanez.
Union Espanola: Rabajda, Galdamez, Lucca, J.C. Gonzalez, Figueroa, Salas, Perdomo, Sierra, Carreno (Sanchez), Ruiz, Morales.

April 5 — Montevideo (Uru)
DEFENSOR (Uru) 0
COLO COLO (Chi) 0
Ref: Epifanio Gonzalez. **Att:** 5,000.
Defensor: Arbiza, J. Gonzalez, Lasarte, Saravia, Dos Santos, Cantera, Almada, Marrero, Correa, De Souza, Alvez.
Colo Colo: Moron, Mendoza, Baena, Reyes, Margas, Vilches, Ramirez, Contreras, Fracchia, Yanez, Toninho Dos Santos.

April 8 — Montevideo (Uru)
NACIONAL (Uru) 2 (Rojas og, Canals pen)
COLO COLO (Chi) 0
HT:Ref: Oscar Velaquez (Par). **Att:** 25,000.
Nacional: Sere, Rodriguez, Canals, Revelez, Souza, Gutierrez, Abeijon, Pereira, Lemos (Canobbio), Vidal Gonzalez, O'Neill.
Colo Colo: Moron, Rojas, Salvatierra, H. Gonzalez, Ceballos, Mendoza, Ferragut, Rubio, Contreras (R. Gonzalez), Fracchia, (Castillo), Toninho Dos Santos.

Group 5

Mar 16 — La Paz (Bol)
THE STRONGEST (Bol) 0
BOLIVAR (Bol) 0
Ref: Pedro Saucedo (Bol). **Att:** 20,000.
The Strongest: Torrico, Arteaga, Quinteros, Sanchez, Francisquine, Aramayo, Melgar, Luna, De Jesus, Garcia, Villarroel.
Bolivar: Soria, Rimba, Jiguchi (Ruiz), Ferrufino, Cristaldo, Soria, Rios, Castillo, Baldivieso, Antelo (Suarez), Salaberry.

Mar 16 — Caracas (Ven)
MARITIMO (Ven) 4 (Lujambio, Matuszycks 2, Camacho)
MINERVEN (Ven) 1 (S. Rivas)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000.
Maritimo: Nikolac, Restifo, Marines, Rey, Jimenez, Rodriguez, Rizzi (Romero), Donizetti, San Vicente, Lujambio (Camacho), Matuszick.
Minerven: Angelucci, Vera (Mieres), Tortolero, E. Garcia, McIntosh, Grueso, Balcucho, S. Rivas, Erramuspe (Denis), Da Silva, J. Garcia.

Mar 22 — La Paz (Bol)
BOLIVAR (Bol) 4 (Soria, Antelo 2, Baldivieso)
MINERVEN (Ven) 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Ubaldo Aquino (Par).
Att: 20,000.
Bolivar: Soria, Rimba, Villegas, Ferrubino (Ruiz), Cristaldo, Rios (Serrano), Soria, Baldivieso, Suarez, Salaberry (Cueto), Antelo.
Minerven: Angelucci, McIntosh, Tortolero, F. Garcia, Morales. Vera, Grueso, Balcucho, Erramuspe (Joao Da Silva), S. Rivas, J. Garcia.

Mar 26 — La Paz (Bol)
THE STRONGEST (Bol) 7 (Quinteros 3, Villarroel, De Jesus, Mir, Arteaga.
MINERVEN (Ven) 1 (S. Rivas)
HT: 2-1. **Ref:** Juan Bernabe (Par).
Att: 16,000.
The Strongest: Ibarra, Arteaga, Quinteros, Sanchez, Boria, Aramayo, Melgar, Luna, Villarroel, A. Garcia (De Jesus), Mir (Gareca).
Minerven: G Angelucci, McIntosh, Mieres, Grueso, E. Garcia, R. Angelucci, Vera, Balcucho, S. Rivas, J. Garcia, Da Silva.

April 5 — La Paz (Bol)
BOLIVAR (Bol) 2 (Antelo, Cueto)
MARITIMO (Ven) 1 (Donizetti)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Eduardo Gamboa (Chi).
Att: 16,000.
Bolivar: Soria, Rimba, Villegas, Sandy, Cristaldo, Teran, Soria, Suarez (Cueto), Baldivieso, Salaberry, Antelo.
Maritimo: Nikolac, Rey, Jimenez, Rizzi, Marines, Restifo (A. Romero), Donizetti, Rodriguez, San Vicente, F. Romero (Cordero), Matuszica.

Apr 8 — La Paz (Bol)
THE STRONGEST (Bol) 5 (Mir pen, Villarroel 3, A. Garcia)
MARITIMO (Ven) 0
HY: 2-0. **Ref:** Carlos Robles (Chi).
Att: 16,000.
The Strongest: Ibarra, Arteaga. Sanchez, Quinteros, Borja, Luna, Villarroel, Melgar (Justiniano), Aramayo, A. Garcia, Mir.
Maritimo: Nikolac, Rey, Marines, Rizzi, Jimenez, Restifo, Donizetti, Rodriguez, Sant Vicente, Matuszick, Romero.

CONCACAF CHAMPIONS TROPHY
(North, Central American & Caribbean Confederation club championship)

2nd round — 1st leg
Mar 16 — San Jose (Costa Rica)
CARTAGINES (CR) 1 (Mena)
PETROTELA (Hon) 0

3rd round — 1st leg
Mar 22 — San Jose (Costa Rica)
HEREDIANO (CR) 3 (Salvador 3)
ATLANTE (Mex) 3 (Chaves, Gomez, Angulo)

2nd round — 2nd leg
Mar 24 — Tegucigalpa (Honduras)
PETROTELA (Hon) 2 (Avila, Santamaria)
CARTAGINES (CR) 2 (Hidalgo, Villafuerte)
Cartagines won 3-2 on agg

3rd round — 2nd leg
Mar 31 — Mexico City
ATLANTE (Mex) 3 (Salvador, Obledo, Garcia)
HEREDIANO (CR) 1 (Martins)
Atlante won 6-4 on agg

3rd round — 1st leg
April 6 — Guatemala City
AURORA (Guat) 1 (Milton)
ALIZANA (ES) 1 (Ulloa)

MAJOR CLUB INTERNATIONALS
Mar 24: Universidad de Chile 1 San Lorenzo (Arg) 0.

OTHER INTERNATIONALS
Mar 16: Colombia select 1 Sao Paulo (Bra) 0.

BEACH SOCCER UNOFFICIAL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP *(in Rio de Janeiro)*
Final *(April 3):* Brazil 6 Italy 3.
3rd place: US 5 Argentina 3.

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BRIAN GLANVILLE'S LAST WORD

Havelange, the first posthumous President

WE ARE stuck with the ineffable and, one hopes, incomparable, Joao Havelange for yet another four years. And, who knows, another four years after that?

My conviction remains that his deepest desire is to become the first posthumous president of FIFA.

In consequence, we seem likely also to be stuck, from 1988 onwards, with a 32-team World Cup. It isn't going to hurt, Havelange assures us, like some friendly dentist. It won't take any more time than the World Cup does today.

Eight groups of four teams, and, hey presto. you won't even notice the difference!

Except, of course, that we shall. The difference in quality. For the 32-team World Cup finals served Havelange's purpose of getting himself elected again, in the face of opposition, however, ultimately feeble, from the European powers that be, or arent't. More teams from Asia, more teams from the CONCACAF group, though there is no evidence that either deserves them.

More teams from Africa? Yes, there's a strong and solid case for that. Three next time, and there probably should be more. Simple enough to work out, were FIFA only to acknowledge the existence of the jet plane, and find a way to have European teams playing off against Africans.

In one respect, at least, FIFA have indeed discovered the uses of the jet plane: and how! Little fuss seems ever to be made about the shabby deal given the Oceania group. By any kind of logic or justice, Australia should be playing in US '94, not Argentina. What possible, valid reason can be given for refusing an automatic passage to the Oceania winners?

Or for giving a dud South American team a second chance?

Argentina were duds when thrashed 5-0 at home in their final qualifying match by a brilliant Colombian team. That should have been that. Instead, the Aussies, who had come through their group wholly on merit, were obliged to play Argentina twice. In the second leg in Buenos Aires, deprived of two of their best players, they lost on a very streaky goal.

Long, long ago, in the qualifying run-up to the 1958 tournament, the Uruguayans scornfully and proudly refused a second chance, when Israel were left alone in their group through the withdrawal of the Arab countries.

Wales seized the chance, qualified against the Israelis and, to give them their due, bravely reached the quarter-finals. A pity Argentina did not show something of the same metal as their neighbours across the River Plate.

Meanwhile, who wants or needs more mediocre teams from CONCACAF or Asia?

Scared spitless

ONCE upon a time, when Ian Wooldridge was on the dear, departed *News Chronicle*, I used to meet him at domestic football matches. Now, I seldom see him, except at World Cups.

For some time now, he has been ridiculing the idea of the World Cup in the US. Not all his arguments are wrong. He is quite right to dismiss the ridiculous figure of 16 million soccer-playing Americans, put out initially by a sports goods manufacturer, and foolishly taken on board by American officialdom.

He also is right to point out that a large proportion of these players are women: though in politically correct America, this would count as a plus. He also is right to assert that there's only limited interest in the American media. But this is down to the bigoted self-interest of sports editors and the correspondents of established US sports.

They are scared spitless of the competition that soccer might provide to gridiron and baseball. And yet . . . and yet. Although there may not be 16 million of them, there are without doubt literally millions of people actually PLAYING soccer in the US.

The remarkable Dallas Tournament (right) — yes, Dallas, TEXAS, once seen as the very heart of the gridiron game — has no equal in the world. Dozens of young teams from all over the globe coverage on Dallas for a series of competitions which often produce outstanding football.

This year, the pride of the tournament was the dazzling Real Madrid side, thrashing even the gifted Bolivians of Tahuichi. A great number of American teams take part.

Go to Flushing Park, New York City, on any Sunday, and you will find an infinity of soccer matches taking place on its manifold fields.

Where Wooldridge and I are agreed is in believing that the sport will never take off professionally in the States, that present plans to re-launch it are doomed.

But Ian should not underestimate the remarkable interest generated by the NASL in its brief heyday, with crowds of more than 70,000 at Giants Stadium to watch a Cosmos team including Pele, Neeskens, Beckenbauer and Carlos Alberto. And this at a time when there wasn't remotely the same interest in the game at grassroots level.

In terms of the numbers participating, and of potential crowds at the games, the US had every claim to stage the World Cup. What were the alternatives? Bankrupt Brazil, and Morocco.

Aborted take-off

I'VE complained before of clever-dick columnists and writers descending on, or condescending to, soccer.

There was a silly column by the usually acute Simon Jenkins in *The Times*; poet and critic Ian Hamilton's self-indulgent Gazza Agonistes. Now more nonsense, from John Diamond, in *The Guardian*, of all places.

Mr Diamond is a much published and usually bright columnist. Until the 1980s, he told us, "sports were regularly covered, and in a style which harked back to the days of the Boys' Own Paper with neat cliches concerning the custodian of the goal posts getting a glove to the arcing orb."

Did he ever read the Boys' Own Paper? Or any kind of sports journalism at all, in the last 30 years or so? That kind of writing went out, if not with the Ark, then certainly some time in the 1920s. To write such bilge in *The Guardian*, the paper which gave us Don Davies, alias Old International, in the 1940s and 50s, John Arlott and David Lacey, in subsequent years, is to insult a grand tradition; and to show enormous ignorance.

Insular Arsenal

BETWEEN the wars, Arsenal and their inspired manager, Herbert Chapman, were the great pioneers of international club football. At a time when, in these islands, insularity ruled supreme.

Chapman was a good friend of the two main men on the Continent: Vittorio Pozzo, who had learned about football as a student in England, then won two World Cups for Italy, and Hugo Meisl, the father of the Austrian Wunderteam.

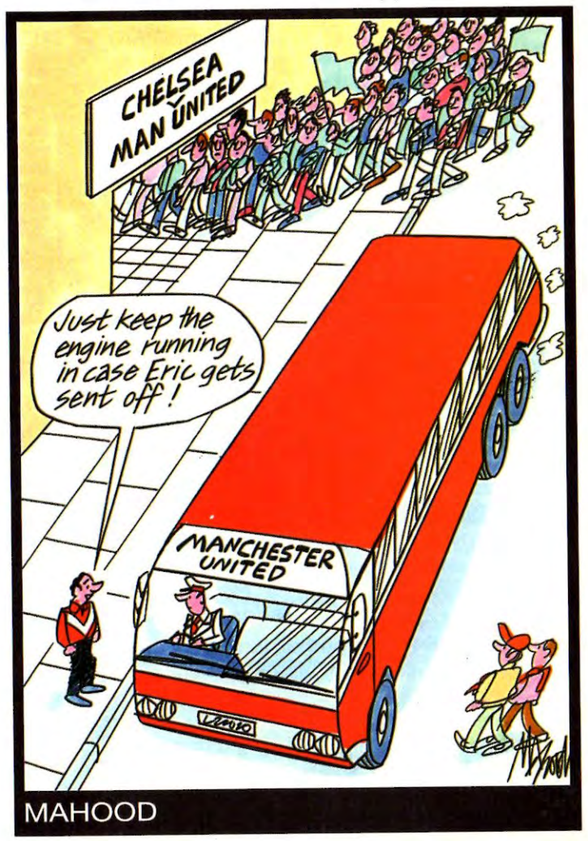
Arsenal's good relations with Jean-Bernard Levy, president of Racing Club de Paris — now, alas, virtually defunct — led to the Armistice Day series of games against Racing, in Paris. At a time when there were so few such fixtures between our clubs and Europe's, these took on much significance, and they lasted until well after the war.

Chapman, I'm sure, would have been astonished at his old club's insularity, this season, over post-match "European" press conferences.

After Arsenal had beaten Torino at Highbury in the Cup-winners Cup, there was no sign of an "official" interpreter.

Next, at the semi-final return leg, Arsenal v Paris Saint Germain, nobody to translate.

Over to you, Arsenal. Insular, or just economical?



WorldCup USA94

WORLD CUP '94 IS ON THE CARDS

AS WORLD CUP fever mounts, the amazing array of USA '94 official merchandise grows ever larger.

Collector Cards are always popular and *WORLD SOCCER* has teamed up with America's leading Collector Card company, Upper Deck, for this great competition.

Available in eight languages, sold in 40 countries and available in more than a million outlets world-wide, Upper Deck's World Cup USA '94 Collector Cards are simply the best around.

There are 323 cards in the collection, featuring stunning action shots, biographies and statitsics chronicling the men who will battle it out in America this summer for football's greatest prize.

The Upper Deck collection is the only officially licensed World Cup collection, and features 3D lithograms and "Electric Cards" which bring the global hobby of card collecting hurtling into the 21st Century.

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The first prize in our great competition is a fantastic World Cup bar football game, which will allow you to relive your childhood down at the local youth club.

There also are 30 runners-up prizes of exclusive Upper Deck World Cup T-shirts, and 30 further runners-up prizes of packs of Upper Deck World Cup USA '94 cards.

To enter, simply study the question below, put your answer, name and address on a *postcard* and send to Upper Deck Competition, *WORLD SOCCER*, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. The closing date is June 15. All usual IPC Magazines competition rules apply.

QUESTION: In which stadium will the 1994 World Cup Final be held?

Upper Deck World Cup USA '94 cards are available nationwide in packs of 10, and there is a special wrapper draw with a trip to the World Cup Final up for grabs. For every 10 Upper Deck World Cup USA '94 wrappers sent to the Collectors' Club, collectors will be entered into the draw for a week-long trip to Los Angeles to see the World Cup Final live!

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UPPER D·E·C·K

A to Z OF THE WORLD'S GREAT GROUNDS

By SIMON INGLIS, author of The Football Grounds of Great Britain and The Football Grounds of Europe

JOHANNESBURG

1

Name: Ellis Park
Capacity: 67,000, rising to 80,000 for next year's Rugby World Cup.

ELLIS PARK

● As spiritual home of white, middle-class South Africa's great sporting passion, Rugby Union, Ellis Park — hardly surprisingly — is Africa's most advanced international venue. Since the 1980s, however, soccer has found a niche here. Kaizer Chiefs were regular tenants from 1984-88 (but often found it too small). Moroka Swallows — part owned by the stadium company — are the current attraction, and last year Arsenal played Manchester United here in a showpiece friendly. In appearance Ellis Park combines American-style executive facilities, decking and ramps with Latin dimensions, all in a British, cramped, inner-city setting.

Depending on post-election civil unrest, the Rugby World Cup is due here in 1995. How about the soccer World Cup in, say, 2010?

World Soccer rating:
9 (out of 10)

2

Name: First National Bank Stadium
Capacity: 85,000
Opened: October 7, 1989
Location: In the middle of a wide open, dusty plain, half-way between Johannesburg and Soweto. The site, called "Soccer City", is intended to become a major sporting, leisure, exhibition and commercial complex.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

● South Africa's newest and largest football stadium is more than simply the new HQ for the national FA, the NSL, the Orlando Pirates (Soweto's favourites), and the country's Cup Final, the annual Bob Save Super Bowl. It is also a symbolic focal point for post-apartheid black South Africa, staging rallies for Nelson Mandela and in memory of the murdered Communist leader Chris Hani. This is a low-cost, high-capacity stadium, in stark contrast to the affluence of Ellis Park. In effect it's a vast sunken bowl with 65,000 seats below ground level and a towering open deck on one side. Quirks include some tacked-on exit ramps, rows of striped blue and white seats, and a public-address gondola (weighing nine tons!) suspended from cables hung from four rather old-fashioned corner floodlight pylons. Plans exist to complete the upper-tier bowl to bring the capacity up to 112,000 — another reason why Johannesburg could form the basis of a strong World Cup bid.

World Soccer rating:
7 (out of 10)

ESTADIO JALISCO, MEXICO

ESTADIO JALISCO

Capacity: 66,193
Opened: 1960, but expanded for 1970 World Cup
Location: Opposite the bull-ring in Guadalajara, Mexico's second largest city.

● Maybe they should call this the Mexican Maracana, or should that be the Casa Havelange? Whereas most World Cup teams inevitably have to play in two or more venues, in 1970 Brazil contrived to play every single match but the Final at the Jalisco. In 1986 they repeated the act — all five games were here — until losing the quarter-final. Still, if you have to be stuck anywhere in Mexico, Guadalajara has much to commend it, particularly a near perfect climate (as long as you don't play football at mid-day — ask England 1970) and an abundance of mariachi bands in the crowd. With its all-round cantilevered roof and two tiers divided by a ring of balconies, Jalisco is a mini-Aztec, but with greater intimacy. Built on a "quadric" plan (each side of the rectangle is slightly curved, as at Nou Camp) the sight-lines are virtually *perfecto*, and the distances not too great either. Add to this the fact that the Jalisco plays host to not one, not two, not even three but four clubs (Guadalajara, Atlas, Universidad de Guadalajara and Jalisco) and you have for yourself the next best thing to a tequila sunrise.

World Soccer rating: **9 (out of 10)**

JAPAN

❒ Unknown to most Westerners, Japan — the Land of the Sliding Roof — has some of the world's most sophisticated sports stadia, domes and arenas, for baseball and tennis in particular. Now, with the J.League up and running — and their bid for the 2002 World Cup looking apparently unassailable — the Japanese are directing their expertise towards football stadia. Followers of the annual Toyota Cup will have seen the 61,000-capacity **Tokyo Olympic Stadium,** but even this 1964 landmark will not necessarily make the World Cup shortlist. **Yokohama** plans to house both the Marinos and Flugels in a 70,000-capacity stadium which would become the World Cup's leading venue. Fourteen other 40,000-plus grounds have been proposed, of which ten (including Kyoto, Sapporo and Osaka) would be brand new and five (including Kobe, Nagoya and Hiroshima) would be major renovations. Nobody should doubt Japan's enthusiasm, or its commitment to put basics before gloss. The new **Kashima Stadium,** for example (home of the J.League Antlers) is a classic British football ground with rectangular stands and four corner floodlight pylons. But there the comparison ends. Japanese punters are used to comfort and sophistication. Looking at the plans for 2002, they'll get it.

OLYMPIC STADIUM

NEXT MONTH IN WORLD SOCCER

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Introduction

THIS summer, in June and July, there will be a spectacular array of top sports action on the nation's televisions.

Armchair fans will be able to enjoy: athletics . . . the European Championships, basketball . . . the NBA Finals, cricket . . . the second and third Cornhill Tests between England and New Zealand plus the Benson and Hedges Cup Final, cycling . . . the Tour de France, equestrianism . . . the Royal International Horse Show, golf . . . the US Open and the British Open, horse racing . . . Royal Ascot, motor racing . . . the French Grand Prix and the British Grand Prix, rowing . . . the Henley Regatta and tennis . . . the Wimbledon championships.

However, the jewel in the crown is the fifteenth World Cup finals.

Because of this massive sporting line-up, BBC and ITV are leaving decisions on the precise nature of their World Cup coverage until just before the start of the tournament. This guide sets out how they have split the matches between them, to be packaged in live and/or highlights form.

Naturally all three matches involving the Republic of Ireland will be shown live. The Republic's opening game, against Italy in New York on June 18, will be shown by ITV, with the kick-off at 9.00pm.

The Republic's next game, against Mexico in Orlando on June 24, will be shown by the BBC, also at 9.00pm. Ireland's final first-round match, against Norway in New York on June 28, will be shown by the BBC, at 5.30pm.

Eurosport will be showing all the matches in full. Where matches take place simultaneously, one will be shown live and one will be shown in full as soon as possible afterwards.

Happy viewing! Bleary eyes are guaranteed all round.

THE EDITOR —
Keir Radnedge.

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EUROSPORT GUIDE

LIVE - MATCH IN FULL, AS IT HAPPENS.
DELAY - MATCH IN FULL, SHOWN LATER THAN KICK-OFF.
REPEATED - MATCH IN FULL SHOWN AFTER ORIGINAL SCREENING

At a glance

1994 WORLD CUP SCHEDULE FIRST ROUND

GROUP A

18.06.94	US v Switzerland	Detroit
18.06.94	Colombia v Romania	Los Angeles
22.06.94	Romania v Switzerland	Detroit
22.06.94	US v Colombia	Los Angeles
26.06.94	US v Romania	Los Angeles
26.06.94	Switzerland v Colombia	San Francisco

GROUP B

19.06.94	Cameroon v Sweden	Los Angeles
20.06.94	Brazil v Russia	San Francisco
24.06.94	Brazil v Cameroon	San Francisco
24.06.94	Sweden v Russia	Detroit
28.06.94	Russia v Cameroon	San Ffancisco
28.06.94	Brazil v Sweden	Detroit

GROUP C

17.06.94	Germany v Bolivia	Chicago
17.06.94	Spain v South Korea	Dallas
21.06.94	Germany v Spain	Chicago
23.06.94	South Korea v Bolivia	Boston
27.06.94	Bolivia v Spain	Chicago
27.06.94	Germany v South Korea	Dallas

GROUP D

21.06.94	Argentina v Greece	Boston
21.06.94	Nigeria v Bulgaria	Dallas
25.06.94	Argentina v Nigeria	Boston
26.06.94	Bulgaria v Greece	Chicago
30.06.94	Greece v Nigeria	Boston
30.06.94	Argentina v Bulgaria	Dallas

GROUP E

18.06.94	Italy v Rep. of Ireland	New York
19.06.94	Norway v Mexico	Washington
23.06.94	Italy v Norway	New York
24.06.94	Mexico v Rep. of Ireland	Orlando
28.06.94	Rep. of Ireland v Norway	New York
28.06.94	Italy v Mexico	Washington

GROUP F

19.06.94	Belgium v Morocco	Orlando
20.06.94	Holland v Saudi Arabia	Washington
25.06.94	Belgium v Holland	Orlando
25.06.94	Saudi Arabia v Morocco	New York
29.06.94	Morocco v Holland	Orlando
29.06.94	Belgium v Saudi Arabia	Washington

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

Andreas Brehme's winning penalty in the 1990 World Cup Final against Argentina was the 1,443rd goal scored in the World Cup finals. The 1,000th World Cup finals goal was scored by Holland's Rob Rensenbrink in 1978.

friday **june 17**

1,443 not out . . . Andreas Brehme scores the winner in the 1990 final.

Group C / Chicago – **20.00** *BST (14.00 local time)* BBC

GERMANY . . . . . ( ) ___ BOLIVIA . . . . . ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group C / Dallas – **00.30** *BST (18.30 local time)* ITV

SPAIN . . . . . ( ) ___ SOUTH KOREA . . . . . ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

GER v BOL — *Live* (20.00) .....*Repeated* (22.00)
SPA v SK — *Live* (00.30).....*Repeated* (08.00 Sat)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

Brazil are the only nation to have won the World Cup outside their own continent. Their 1958 success in Sweden gave them this unique record.

saturday **june 18**

Group A /Detroit – **16.30** *BST (11.30 local time)* BBC

US . . . . . ( ) ___

SWITZERLAND. . . . . ( ) ___

Att: .....
Ref: .....

ALEXEI LALAS *of the US*

Group E /New York – **21.00** *BST (16.00 local time)* ITV

ITALY . . . . . ( ) ___ REP. IRELAND . . . . . ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group A /Los Angeles – **00.30** *BST (16.30 local time)* BBC

COLOMBIA . . . . . ( ) ___ ROMANIA . . . . . ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

US v SWI — *Live* (16.30).....*Repeated* (23.00)
ITA v IRE — *Live* (21.00) .....*Repeated* (08.00 Sun)
COL v ROM — *Live* (00.30).....*Repeated* (12.00 Sun)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

England's Geoff Hurst is the only man to score a hat-trick in the World Cup Final (1966).

sunday **june 19**

Group F /Orlando – **17.30** *BST (12.30 local time)* BBC

BELGIUM ..... ( ) ___

MOROCCO ..... ( ) ___

Att: .....

Ref: .....

Cameroon's Jean-Claude Pagal.

Group B /Los Angeles – **00.30** *BST (16.30 local time)* BBC

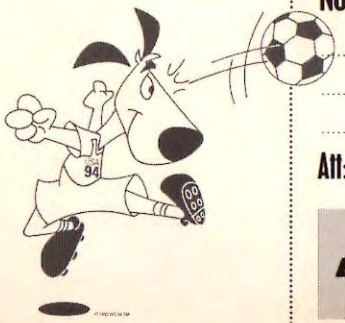
CAMEROON ..... ( ) ___ SWEDEN ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group E /Washington – **21.00** *BST (16.00 local time)* BBC

NORWAY ..... ( ) ___ MEXICO ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....



EUROSPORT

BEL v MOR — *Live* (17.30).....*Repeated* (23.00)
NOR v MEX — *Live* (21.00).....*Repeated* (08.00 Mon)
CAM v SWE — *Live* (00.30).....*Repeated* (00.30)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

West Germany's Uwe Seeler has played longer in the World Cup finals than any other player. Although he and Poland's Wladislaw Zmuda have each played 21 matches, three periods of extra time gives Seeler the record at 33 hours.

monday **june 20**

West Germany's Uwe Seeler.

Group B /San Francisco – **21.00** *BST (13.00 local time)* BBC

BRAZIL ..... ( ) ___ RUSSIA ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group F /Washington – **00.30** *BST (19.30 local time)* ITV

HOLLAND ..... ( ) ___ SAUDI ARABIA ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

BRA v RUS — *Live* (21.00).....*Repeated* (08.00 Tue)
HOL v SA — *Live* (00.30).....*Repeated* (12.15 Tue)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

Four players have each represented two countries in the World Cup finals: Jose Altafini (Brazil 1958 & Italy 1962), Luis Monti (Argentina 1930 & Italy 1934), Ferenc Puskas (Hungary 1954 & Spain 1962) and Jose Santamaria (Uruguay 1954 & Spain 1962).

tuesday **june 21**

Group D /Boston – **17.30** *BST (12.30 local time)* ITV

ARGENTINA ..... ( ) ___

GREECE ..... ( ) ___

Att: .....

Ref: .....

Argentina's Gabriel Batistuta.

Group C /Chicago – **21.00** *BST (15.00 local time)* ITV

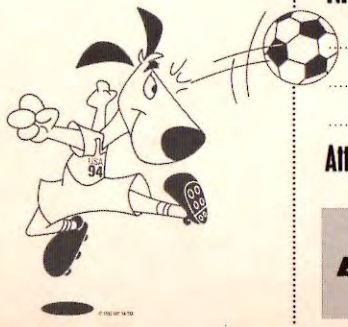
GERMANY ..... ( ) ___ SPAIN ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group D /Dallas – **00.30** *BST (18.30 local time)* BBC

NIGERIA ..... ( ) ___ BULGARIA ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....



EUROSPORT

ARG v GRE — *Live* (17.30) .....*Repeated* (08.00 Wed)
GER v SPA — *Live* (21.00) .....*Repeated* (19.00 Wed)
NIG v BUL — *Live* (00.30) .....*Repeated* (12.00 Wed)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

The first goalkeeper to be substituted in the World Cup finals was Romania's Steve Adameche in 1970. He went off after 29 minutes in the match against Brazil. His replacement was Necula Raducanu.

wednesday **june 22**

Romanian goalkeeper Florin Prunea.

Group A /Detroit – **21.00** *BST (16.00 local time)* ITV

ROMANIA ..... ( ) ___ SWITZERLAND ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group A /Los Angeles – **00.30** *BST (16.30 local time)* ITV

US ..... ( ) ___ COLOMBIA ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

ROM v SWI — *Live* (21.00) .....*Repeated* (08.00 Thu)
US v COL — *Live* (00.30) .....*Repeated* (12.00 Thu)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

The fastest dismissal in World Cup finals history took place in Mexico in 1986. Uruguay's Jose Batista was sent off after just 55 seconds of the game against Scotland.

thursday **june 23**

Group E /New York – **21.00** *BST (16.00 local time)* BBC

ITALY . . . . . ( ) ___ **SWITZERLAND** . . . . . ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

ROBERTO BAGGIO *of ITALY*

PAUL McGRATH *of the REP. OF IRELAND*

Group C /Boston – **00.30** *BST (19.30 local time)* ITV

SOUTH KOREA . . . . . ( ) ___ **BOLIVIA** . . . . . ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

ITA v SWI — *Live* (21.00) ..... *Repeated* (08.00 Fri)
SK v BOL — *Live* (00.30) ..... *Repeated* (12.00 Fri)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

No World Cup captain has lifted the trophy twice. Diego Maradona skippered Argentina to victory in 1986 and to runners-up spot in 1990. West Germany's Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has led two losing teams in World Cup Finals.

friday **june 24**

Group E /Orlando – **17.30** *BST (12.30 local time)* ITV

MEXICO . . . . . ( ) ___

REP. IRELAND . . . . . ( ) ___

Att: .....
Ref: .....

Republic of Ireland midfielder Andy Townsend.

Group B /San Francisco – **21.00** *BST (13.00 local time)* BBC

BRAZIL . . . . . ( ) ___ **CAMEROON** . . . . . ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group B /Detroit – **00.30** *BST (19.30 local time)* ITV

SWEDEN . . . . . ( ) ___ **RUSSIA** . . . . . ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

MEX v IRE — *Live* (17.30) ..... *Repeated* (08.00 Sat)
BRA v CAM — *Live* (21.00)
SWE v RUS — *Live* (00.30)

DID YOU KNOW?

Brazil's Mario Zagalo was the first man to play in and manage a World Cup-winning team. He was a member of Brazil's 1958 and 1962 sides, and he coached Brazil to victory in 1970.

saturday **june 25**

Group F /Orlando – **17.30** *BST (12.30 local time)* ITV

BELGIUM ..... ( )___

HOLLAND ..... ( )___

Att: .....

Ref: .....

Holland striker Ruud Gullit.

Group F /New York – **17.30** *BST (12.30 local time)* ITV

SAUDI ARABIA ..... ( )___ MOROCCO ..... ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group D /Boston – **21.00** *BST (16.00 local time)* BBC

ARGENTINA ..... ( )___ NIGERIA ..... ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

SA v MOR — *Live* (17.30) ..... *Repeated* (00.30)
BEL v HOL — *Delay* (20.15) ..... *Repeated* (08.00 Sun)
ARG v NIG — *Live* (21.00) ..... *Repeated* (23.00)

DID YOU KNOW?

Mexico's Antonio Carbajal is the only player to appear in five World Cup finals tournaments. He was Mexico's goalkeeper at the 1950, 1954, 1958, 1962 and 1966 tournaments.

GROUP A — *Final standings*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
A1							
A2							
A3							
4							

sunday **june 26**

highlights

Group D /Chicago – **17.30** *BST (11.30 local time)* ITV

BULGARIA ..... ( )___ GREECE ..... ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

highlights

Group A /Los Angeles – **21.00** *BST (13.00 local time)* BBC

UNITED STATES ..... ( )___ ROMANIA ..... ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

highlights

Group A /San Francisco – **21.00** *BST (13.00 local time)* ITV

SWITZERLAND ..... ( )___

COLOMBIA ..... ( )___

Att: .....

Ref: .....

CARLOS VALDERRAMA
of Colombia

EUROSPORT

BUL v GRE — *Live* (17.30) ..... *Repeated* (08.15 Mon)
SWI v COL — *Delay* (23.45) ..... *Repeated* (17.00 Mon)
US v ROM — *Delay* (01.15) ..... *Repeated* (11.00 Mon)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

The 1934 Czechoslovakian World Cup Final side contained players drawn from just two clubs — Sparta Prague and Slavia Prague. No other World Cup Final team has contained such a small club representation.

GROUP C — *Final standings*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
C1							
C2							
C3							
4							

monday **june 27**

Group C /Chicago – **21.00** *BST (15.00 local time)* BBC

SPAIN ..... ( ) ___ BOLIVIA ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group C /Dallas – **21.00** *BST (15.00 local time)* BBC

JURGEN KLINSMANN
of GERMANY

GERMANY ..... ( ) ___

SOUTH KOREA ..... ( ) ___

Att: .....
Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

SPA v BOL — *Live* (21.00) ..... *Repeated* (01.00)
GER v SK — *Delay* (23.00) ..... *Repeated* (08.00 Tue)

WorldCup USA94

GROUP B — *Final standings*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
B1							
B2							
B3							
4							

GROUP E — *Final standings*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
E1							
E2							
E3							
4							

tuesday **june 28**

Group E /New York – **17.30** *BST (12.30 local time)* BBC

REP. OF IRELAND ... ( ) ___ NORWAY ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group E /Washington – **17.30** *BST (12.30 local time)* BBC

ITALY ..... ( ) ___ MEXICO ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group B /San Francisco – **21.00** *BST (13.00 local time)* ITV

RUSSIA ..... ( ) ___ CAMEROON ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group B /Boston – **21.00** *BST (16.00 local time)* ITV

BRAZIL ..... ( ) ___ SWEDEN ..... ( ) ___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

IRE v NOR — *Live* (17.30) or ..... *Delay* (19.30)
ITA v MEX — *Live* (17.30) or ..... *Delay* (19.30)
RUS v CAM — *Live* (21.00) or ..... *Delay* (23.00)
BRA v SWE — *Live* (21.00) or ..... *Delay* (23.00)

TV PANELLISTS

Terry Venables.

Gary Lineker.

Denis Law.

Ray Wilkins.

ITV AND BBC WILL BE WHEELING OUT THEIR ALL-STAR LINE-UPS TO REPORT AND ASSESS THE ACTION FROM THE US.

BBC'S WORLD CUP COVERAGE WILL BE PRESENTED BY DESMOND LYNAM (ABOVE) AND BOB WILSON. THE COMMENTATORS WILL BE JOHN MOTSON, BARRY DAVIES, GERALD SINSTADT, TONY GUBBA AND CLIVE TYLDESLEY.

WORLD SOCCER COLUMNIST TREVOR BROOKING WILL BE JOINED IN THE TEAM OF CO-COMMENTATORS BY BRIGHTON MANAGER LIAM BRADY, SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY WINGER CHRIS WADDLE AND WIMBLEDON CAPTAIN JOHN FASHANU. THE WORLD CUP REPORTERS WILL BE RAY STUBBS, HAZEL IRVINE — ON A LOAN TRANSFER FROM SCOTLAND — AND GARTH CROOKS. STUDIO ANALYSIS WILL BE PROVIDED BY JIMMY HILL, ALAN HANSEN, GARY LINEKER AND ENGLAND MANAGER TERRY VENABLES.

ITV'S COVERAGE WILL BE FRONTED BY MATTHEW LORENZO, WHOSE STUDIO GUESTS WILL INCLUDE RON ATKINSON, RAY WILKINS, DENIS LAW AND KEVIN KEEGAN.

ITV'S COMMENTARY TEAM WILL BE BRIAN MOORE, ALAN PARRY, JOHN HELM AND PETER BRACKLEY.

ALL IN ALL, IT IS AN IMPRESSIVE LINE-UP WHICH SHOULD PROVIDE COMPELLING DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE SCREEN. WHO WILL WIN THE TV WORLD CUP?

WORLD CUP QUIZ

Take the Mastermind test!

TRY your luck at this special World Cup quiz, devised by GRANT HUGHES, who won the 1986 *New Zealand TV* Mastermind title, after taking World Cup history as his specialist subject.

All the questions refer to the final stages of competitions, not qualifying tournaments.

The answers are on page 31.

1. What is the largest official attendance at a match in any World Cup final tournament?

2. In which World Cup did Argentina and Brazil meet for the first time?

3. Which two players scored in every game their respective countries played when winning a final tournament?

4. Name the only British player to score in the final stages of three successive competitions.

5. Who was the first referee to send off a player in a World Cup finals match?

6. Which country fielded different goalkeepers in three successive games in the 1982 competition?

7. Name the manager who took his country to the finals of two World Cups, 16 years apart.

8. What is the highest number of goals scored in one match during any finals tournament?

9. Bobby Charlton (left) was replaced by substitute Colin Bell during the 1970 quarter-final. What was the score when he went off?

10. Who refereed the 1966 World Cup Final?

11. Michel of Spain (left) was one of two players who scored hat-tricks in the 1990 competition. Name the other.

12. Who was the first player to miss in a World Cup penalty shootout?

13. Which two players share the record of 21 appearances?

14. What is the link between Dick Nanninga, Alessandro Altobelli (above) and Rudi Voller?

15. Who played in the 1938 finals and managed a team in the 1982 event?

16. Name the scorer of Brazil's 100th goal in the finals.

17. Who, in 1970, became the first substitute to appear in a match?

18. Which player captained England in the 1982 tournament?

19. How many of Italy's 1934 winning team had been born in Argentina?

20. Who scored for Scotland versus Iran in 1978?

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

In the 1974 World Cup Final Holland scored before any West German player touched the ball! From the kick-off, Johan Cruyff was brought down in the penalty area and Johan Neeskens scored from the spot

GROUP F — *Final standings*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
F1							
F2							
F3							
4							

wednesday **june 29**

Falling Dutchman . . . Johan Cruyff, 1974 World Cup Final.

highlights

Group F /Orlando – **17.30** *BST (12.30 local time)* ITV

MOROCCO . . . . . ( )___ HOLLAND . . . . . ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

highlights

Group F /Washington – **17.30** *BST (12.30 local time)* ITV

BELGIUM . . . . . ( )___ SAUDI ARABIA . . . . . ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

EUROSPORT

MOR v HOL — *Delay* (21.30)....*Repeated* (08.00 Thu)
BEL v SA — *Live* (17.30) .....*Repeated* (12.00 Thu)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

Only two founder members of FIFA competed in the first World Cup finals in Uruguay in 1930 — France and Belgium.

Hungary's defeat in the 1954 World Cup Final was their first defeat in 33 matches, a run which lasted for four years.

GROUP D — *Final standings*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
D1							
D2							
D3							
4							

thursday **june 30**

Group D /Boston – **00.30** *BST (19.30 local time)* BBC

GREECE . . . . . ( )___ NIGERIA. . . . . ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Group D /Dallas – **00.30** *BST (18.30 local time)* BBC

ARGENTINA . . . . . ( )___ BULGARIA . . . . . ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

South Korea's Noh Jung-Yoon.

EUROSPORT

GRE v NIG — *Live* (00.30) or.....*Delay* (13.00 Fri)
ARG v BUL — *Live* (00.30) or.....*Delay* (13.00 Fri)

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

The most frequently used surname in the World Cup finals is Gonzales *(or Gonzalez)*, of which there are 14 examples, followed by Lopes *(or Lopez)* with 11.

saturday **july 2**

SECOND ROUND

Winner C v 3rd A,B or F /**Chicago – 19.00** *BST (12.00 local time)*

.....( )___ .....( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Runner-up C v Runner-up A /**Washington – 21.30** *BST (16.30 local time)*

.....( )___ .....( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

French flair . . . Michel Platini, 1986 World Cup.

DID YOU KNOW? Inside-left Lucien Laurent scored the first goal in the World Cup finals. He scored for France against Mexico after 19 minutes on July 13, 1930 in Montevideo

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

Brazil hold the record for most wins in the World Cup finals with 44. [West] Germany are second with 39, Italy third with 31.

sunday **july 3**

Italian heroes . . . Marco Tardelli and Dino Zoff, 1982 World Cup.

SECOND ROUND

Runner-up F v Runner-up B /**Dallas – 18.00** *BST (12.00 local time)*

.....( )___ .....( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Winner A v 3rd C, D or E /**Los Angeles – 21.30** *BST (13.30 local time)*

.....( )___ .....( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

DID YOU KNOW? Brazil are the only nation to have been managed by brothers in the World Cup finals. Zeze Moreira was in charge in 1954, while his brother, Aimore, was manager in 1962.

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

The biggest win in the World Cup finals is Hungary's 10-1 trouncing of El Salvador in Spain in 1982. The highest aggregate score is 12 from Austria's 7-5 victory over Switzerland in 1954.

monday **july 4**

Out of the blue . . . England's David Platt scores a last-minute winner aginst Belgium in 1990.

SECOND ROUND

Winner F v Runner-up E /Orlando – 17.00 *BST (12.00 local time)*

. . . . . ( )___ . . . . . ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Winner B v 3rd A, C or D /San Francisco – 20.30 *BST (12.30 local time)*

. . . . . ( )___ . . . . . ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

DID YOU KNOW? Dino Zoff is the oldest World Cup winner. He was aged 40 years and four months when he captained Italy to victory in 1982.

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

West Germany's Gerd Muller holds the record for the most number of goals scored in World Cup finals matches. His total of 14 came from the 1970 and 1974 tournaments.

tuesday **july 5**

SECOND ROUND

Winner D v 3rd B, E or F /Boston – 18.00 *BST (13.00 local time)*

. . . . . ( )___ . . . . . ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Winner E, Runner-up D /New York – 21.30 *BST (16.30 local time)*

. . . . . ( )___ . . . . . ( )___

Att: ..... Ref: .....

Goal machine . . . West Germany's Gerd Muller.

DID YOU KNOW? The first goalkeeper to be substituted in the World Cup finals was Romania's Steve Adameche in 1970. He went off after 29 minutes in the match against Brazil. His replacement was Necula Raducanu.

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

The fastest goal of the World Cup finals was scored by Czecho-slovakia's Vaclav Masek after 15 seconds of the game with Mexico in Chile in 1962.

saturday **july 9**

QUARTER-FINALS

Winner Boston v winner Washington /**Boston – 17.00** *BST (12.00 local time)*

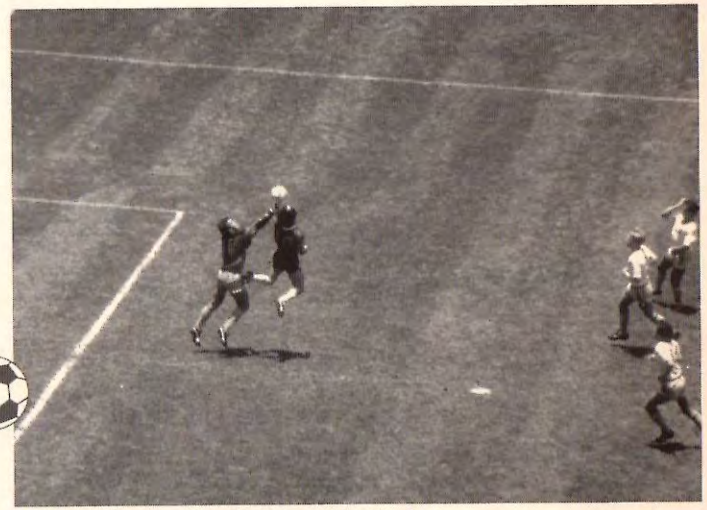
.....( )___ .....( )___

Att:..... Ref:.....

Winner Orlando v San Francisco /**Dallas – 20.30** *BST (12.30 local time)*

.....( )___ .....( )___

Att:..... Ref:.....



The hand of God . . . Diego Maradona, 1986 World Cup.

DID YOU KNOW? West Germany's Uwe Seeler shares a record with Brazil's Pele: both men have scored in each of four tournaments — 1958, 1962, 1966 and 1970.

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

Brazil have scored most goals in World Cup finals matches — 148. [West] Germany are not far behind with 145, but there is a long gap to Italy in third place with 89.

sunday **july 10**

Felled . . . West Germany's Lothar Matthaus is stopped by England's Paul Parker, 1990 World Cup.

QUARTER-FINALS

Winner NY v Winner Chicago /**New York – 17.00** *BST (12.00 local time)*

.....( )___ .....( )___

Att:..... Ref:.....

Winner LA v Winner Dallas /**San Francisco – 20.30** *BST (12.30 local time)*

.....( )___ .....( )___

Att:..... Ref:.....

DID YOU KNOW? 462 matches have been played in the World Cup finals, and 60 players have been dismissed during these matches.

DID YOU KNOW?

Hungary hold the record for most goals scored in a single World Cup finals tournament. The "Mighty Magyars" scored 27 goals in the 1954 finals in Switzerland.

wednesday **july 13**

SEMI-FINAL

Winner NY v winner Boston /**New York – 21.00** *BST (16.00 local time)*

..... ( ) ___	..... ( ) ___
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8
9	9
10	10
11	11
12	12
13	13
scorers	*scorers*

Att: ..... **Ref:** .....

Six to one . . . Maradona takes on the Belgian defence, 1982 World

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

Alfred Bickel (Switzerland) and Erik Nilsson (Sweden) are the only players to have played in the World Cup finals both before and after World War Two. They both appeared in 1938 and 1950.

wednesday **july 13**

Tough . . . Matthaus consoles Waddle, 1990.

SEMI-FINAL

Winner SF v Winner Dallas /**Orlando – 00.30** *BST (16.30 local time)*

..... ( ) ___	..... ( ) ___
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8
9	9
10	10
11	11
12	12
13	13
scorers	*scorers*

Att: ..... **Ref:** .....

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

Pele is the youngest World Cup winner. He was aged 17 years and eight months when Brazil won in 1958 in Sweden.

saturday **july 16**

Young, gifted and black . . . Brazil's Pele, aged 17 years.

THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF

Semi-final losers /**Los Angeles – 20.30** *BST (12.30 local time)*

..... ( ) ___	..... ( ) ___
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8
9	9
10	10
11	11
12	12
13	13
scorers	*scorers*
Att:	**Ref:**

WorldCup USA94

DID YOU KNOW?

The 1994 World Cup mascot is called "Striker". Over 25,000 Americans took part in a competition to choose the mascot's name.

sunday **july 17**

FINAL

Semi-final winners /**Los Angeles – 20.30** *BST (12.30 local time)*

..... ( ) ___	..... ( ) ___
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8
9	9
10	10
11	11
12	12
13	13
scorers	*scorers*
Att:	**Ref:**

What its all about . . . the World Cup, with West Germany's happy players.

STADIUMS

1. BOSTON
Foxboro Stadium
Capacity: 61,000.
Built: 1970.
Location: Halfway between Boston and Providence, Rhode Island. 20 miles from downtown Boston, Massachusetts.
Average July temp: 27°C.

2. CHICAGO
Soldier Field
Capacity: 66,814.
Built: 1922.
Location: On the shore of Lake Michigan, south of downtown Chicago.
Average July temp: 29°C.

3. DALLAS
Cotton Bowl
Capacity: 72,000.
Built: 1930.
Location: in the historic Fair Park in Dallas, Texas.
Average July temp: 36°C.

4. DETROIT
Silverdome
Capacity: 76,000.
Built: 1975.
Location: Pontiac, Michigan, 18 miles from downtown Detroit.
Average July temp: 28°C.

5. LOS ANGELES
Rose Bowl
Capacity: 102,083.
Built: 1922.
Location: Pasadena, 7 miles from the centre of Los Angeles.
Average July temp: 28°C.

6. NEW YORK
Giants Stadium
Capacity: 76,891.
Built: 1976.
Location: part of the Meadowlands Complex in East Rutherford, New Jersey. Five miles from New York City.
Average July temp: 30°C.

7. ORLANDO
Citrus Bowl
Capacity: 70,188.
Built: 1976.
Location: One mile west of the centre of Orlando.
Average July temp: 27°C.

8. SAN FRANCISCO
Stanford Stadium
Capacity: 86,019.
Built: 1922.
Location: Palo Alto, 27 miles south of San Francisco.
Average July temp: 21°C.

9. WASHINGTON
RFK Stadium
Capacity: 56,500.
Built: 1961.
Location: 20 blocks east of the Capitol building in central Washington DC.
Average July temp: 31°C.

ABC and *ESPN* will handle the American coverage of the World Cup finals. *ABC* will network 11 matches live, at weekends and on the holiday weekend on July 4. *ESPN* will show 41 matches, of which 12 will be shown as delayed transmissions around midnight.

US TV SCHEDULE

June 17	Germany v Bolivia	3pm	*ESPN*
	Spain v South South Korea	12.30am *	*ESPN*
June 18	US v Switzerland	11.30am	*ABC*
	Italy v Rep. of Ireland	4 pm	*ESPN*
	Colombia v Romania	7.30pm	*ESPN*
June 19	Belgium v Morocco	12.30pm	*ESPN*
	Norway v Mexico	4pm	*ESPN*
	Cameroon v Sweden	Midnight*	*ESPN*
June 20	Brazil v Russia	4pm	*ESPN*
	Holland v Saudi Arabia	12.30am*	*ESPN*
June 21	Argentina v Greece	12.30pm	*ESPN*
	Germany v Spain	4pm	*ESPN*
	Nigeria v Bulgaria	12.30am*	*ESPN*
June 22	Romania v Switzerland	4pm	*ESPN*
	US v Colombia	7.30pm	*ESPN*
June 23	Italy v Norway	4pm	*ESPN*
	South Korea v Bolivia	12.30am*	*ESPN*
June 24	Mexico v Rep. of Ireland	12.30pm	*ESPN*
	Brazil v Cameroon	4pm	*ESPN*
	Sweden v Russia	7.30pm	*ESPN*
June 25	Belgium v Holland	12.30pm	*ABC*
	Argentina v Nigeria	4pm*	*ABC*
	Saudi Arabia v Morocco	12.30am*	*ESPN*
June 26	Bulgaria v Greece	12.30pm	*ESPN*
	US v Romania	4pm	*ABC*
	Switzerland v Colombia	midnight*	*ESPN*
June 27	Germany v South South Korea	4pm	*ESPN*
	Bolivia v Spain	12.30am*	*ESPN*
June 28	Italy v Mexico	12.30pm	*ESPN*
	Brazil v Sweden	4pm	*ESPN*
	Rep. of Ireland v Norway	12.30am*	*ESPN*
	Russia v Cameroon	3am*	*ESPN*
June 29	Morocco v Holland	12.30pm	*ESPN*
	Belgium v Saudi Arabia	4pm*	*ESPN*
June 30	Argentina v Bulgaria	7pm	*ESPN*
July 1	Greece v Nigeria	12.30am*	*ESPN*
July 2	Second round	1pm	*ABC*
	Second round	4.30pm	*ESPN*
July 3	Second round	1pm	*ABC*
	Second round	4.30pm	*ESPN*
July 4	Second round	noon	*ABC*
	Second round	3.30pm	*ESPN*
July 5	Second round	1pm	*ESPN*
	Second round	4.30pm	*ESPN*
July 9	Quarter-final (Foxboro)	noon	*ABC*
	Quarter-final	3.30pm	*ABC*
July 10	Quarter-final	noon	*ESPN*
	Quarter-final	3.30pm	*ABC*
July 13	Semi-final	4pm	*ESPN*
	Semi-final	7.30pm	*ESPN*
July 16	Third-place play-off	3.30pm	*ESPN*
July 17	Final	3.30pm	*ABC*

** = taped game for delayed transmission*

WORLD CUP QUIZ ANSWERS

1- 199,854, Brazil v Uruguay 1950. **2-** 1974: Brazil won 2-1. **3-** Ghiggia (Uruguay 1950, four goals in four games) and Jairzinho (Brazil 1970), seven in six). **4-** Joe Jordan (Scotland, 1974, 1978, 1982). **5-** Alberto Warken of Chile in 1930, who sent off De Las Casas of Peru. **6-** Belgium (Pfaff, Custers, Munaron). **7-** Lajos Baroti of Hungary, 1962 and 1978. **8-** 12 — Austria 7 Switzerland 5 in 1954. **9-** England 2 West Germany 1. **10-** Gottfried Dienst (Switzerland). **11-** Skuhravy (Czechoslovakia v Costa Rica). **12-** Uli Stielike (West Germany) v France in 1982. **13-** Uwe Seeler (West Germany) and Wladislav Zmuda (Poland). **14-** They all scored in a World Cup Final after going on as substitute. **15-** Tim (Brazil player, Peru manager). **16-** Pele (first goal in 1970 Final v Italy). **17-** Pusatch (USSR v Mexico). **18-** Mick Mills. **19-** Three — Monti, Guaita and Orsi. **20-** Eskandarian, own goal.

TV and Fixtures guide to the World Cup

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WORLD CUP '94 Ladbrokes

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an easy and comprehensive betting service from the world's largest bookmaker on the world's greatest sporting event

Ladbrokes

Ladbrokes (Gibraltar) Ltd. are part of the Ladbroke Group of Companies. We provide a weekly football pricing service for our clients throughout the World and operate a comprehensive telephone betting facility in Italian, Spanish and German as well as English.

Betting on football is a popular pastime in many countries and adds a more personal involvement on the game itself. Ladbrokes (Gibraltar) Ltd. will be providing prices on all 52 World Cup matches with an extensive and exciting range of betting opportunities.

- **WHICH TEAM WILL WIN THE MATCH?**
- **WILL THE MATCH BE A DRAW?**
- **WHAT WILL BE THE FINAL SCORE?**
- **WHO WILL BE THE FIRST GOAL SCORER?**
- **FORECAST THE RESULT AT HALF TIME AND FULL TIME**
- **WHO WILL BE THE SCORER OF THE LAST GOAL?**
- **WHAT WILL THE TIME OF THE FIRST GOAL BE?**

In addition to betting on each match, we provide price quotations on other eventualities and results for the World Cup '94.

- **WHO WILL WIN THE WORLD CUP?**
- **WHO WILL BE THE GROUP WINNERS?**
- **WHO WILL BE THE TWO FINALISTS?**
- **WHO WILL BE THE TOURNAMENT'S TOP GOAL SCORER?**

WHO WILL WIN THE WORLD CUP?

7/2	Brazil	25/1	Russia	50/1	Romania
4/1	Germany	33/1	Bolivia	50/1	Bulgaria
9/2	Italy	33/1	Switzerland	50/1	USA
7/1	Holland	33/1	Nigeria	100/1	Cameroon
8/1	Argentina	40/1	Sweden	100/1	Greece
9/1	Colombia	40/1	Norway	150/1	Morocco
16/1	Spain	40/1	Rep. of Ireland	250/1	Saudi Arabia
25/1	Belgium	40/1	Mexico	250/1	South Korea

EACH WAY 1/2 the odds to finish 1st or 2nd.

Bet Example: £100 (£105 inc. 5% service charge) on Spain to win the World Cup at 16/1 would give a return to the customer of £1700 if they win the competition.

WORLD CUP GROUP PRICE GUIDE

GROUP A		GROUP B		GROUP C	
4/5	Colombia	2/5	Brazil	4/9	Germany
7/2	Switzerland	9/2	Russia	3/1	Spain
9/2	Romania	6/1	Sweden	5/1	Bolivia
11/2	USA	12/1	Cameroon	50/1	South Korea

GROUP D		GROUP E		GROUP F	
4/11	Argentina	2/5	Italy	2/5	Holland
5/1	Bulgaria	11/2	Norway	2/1	Belgium
6/1	Nigeria	7/1	Rep. of Ireland	16/1	Morocco
8/1	Greece	7/1	Mexico	50/1	Saudi Arabia

Bet Example: £500 (£525 inc. 5% service charge) on Colombia to win Group A at 4/5 would provide the customer with a return of £900 should Colombia win their group.

Many other exciting betting opportunities from Ladbrokes will be available during World Cup '94

Prices correct at time of going to press
All prices quoted are subject to fluctuation